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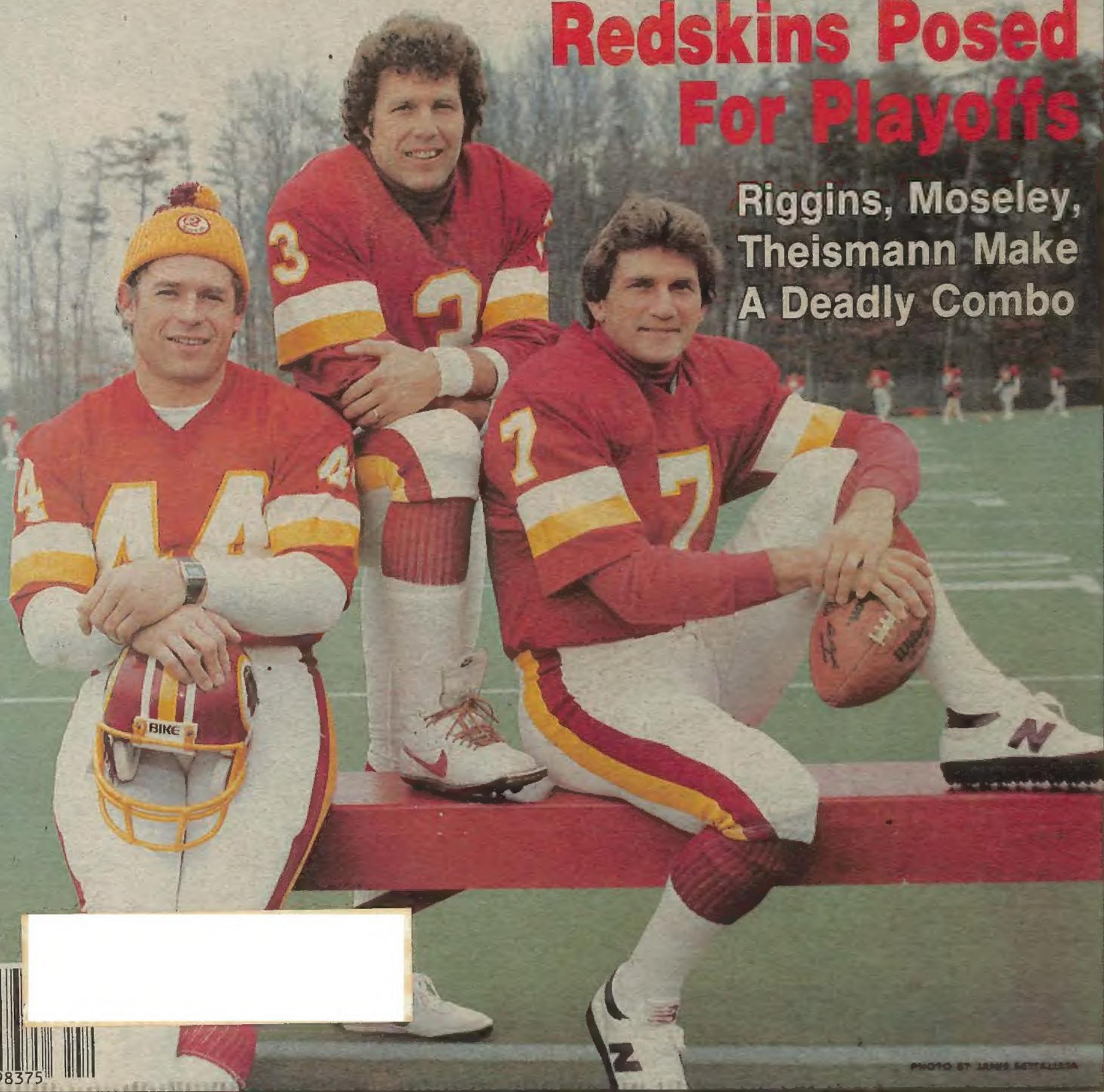
Penn State Gives Paterno a No. 1 Finish

Randy Breuer: The 7-3 Secret of Minnesota

'Bama Bags a Bowl in Bear's Farewell

Redskins Posed For Playoffs

Riggins, Moseley,
Theismann Make
A Deadly Combo



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PHOTO BY JAMES MORTALBA

Three-Pronged Attack

Redskins Arrive

By PAUL ATTNER

WASHINGTON—In this era of pass-happy pro football, no team goes about winning in quite the same manner as the upstart Washington Redskins.

No team has relied so heavily on the unerring accuracy of its field goal kicker.

No team has transformed a routine practice exercise—the so-called Riggo Drill—into a weapon for preserving a lead in the fourth quarter.

No team has had nearly as many close calls, nearly as many last-minute heroics, nearly as many chances to become ordinary.

And no team has surprised the National Football League as much as these Redskins, who find themselves among the NFL's elite entering the playoffs just 15 months after a horrid 0-5 start in 1981 marred Joe Gibbs' rookie season as head coach.

This is pro football's blue-collar team, where the offensive linemen call themselves "the Hogs" and where both stars and No. 1 draft choices are hard to find.

"When I think of the Redskins, I think really of just three people," said George Young, the New York Giants' general manager. "I think of Joe Theismann, Mark Moseley and John Riggins."

That trio, with help from an unheralded young wide receiver named Charlie Brown and a steadily improving defense transformed by new-found aggressiveness, has carried the Redskins to the top of the National Football Conference two years after a 6-10 record resulted in firing the previous coach, Jack Pardee.

The Skins have become unexpected winners because they rarely hurt themselves with turnovers, because they play at a high emotional level each week, because they control the ball, because they have a fine teaching staff of assistants and because they are fueled by an unexplainable combination of chemistry and good fortune.

And they win because of Gibbs, a warm, quick-witted man who has shown remarkable coaching promise since joining the Redskins after serving eight years as an NFL assistant, the last two as offensive coordinator of the high-powered San Diego Chargers.

It was Gibbs, in his first head coaching job, who prevented the Redskins from deteriorating during the awful early weeks of last season. It was Gibbs who made a midseason decision in 1981 and decided to run more and pass less with his innovative one-back offense. It is Gibbs who has brought laughter and an informal atmosphere to the Redskins' locker room, where cowboy boots routinely are filled with ice and players are always on the lookout for would-be pranksters.

Gibbs leads without being authoritarian. The 42-year-old coach sincerely enjoys the company of his players, who find him approachable and flexible. He motivates them by using common sense, not fear, and when he makes a mistake, he openly laughs at himself. His humanistic approach, coupled with a knack for drawing out talent from players with limited skills, have been keys to the Redskins' progress.

"It's simple," said guard Mark May about Gibbs, a deeply religious man who neither smokes nor drinks. "He treats us like men, not little boys. He gives us credit for having brains and we all appreciate that."

But even Gibbs candidly admits his club's success has not done much to improve its image.

"I think teams fear people like San Diego and Cincinnati, but, being honest, I don't think they have that fear of us," Gibbs said. "They still are looking at this team and saying, 'How in the world did these guys get to where they are?'

"I just don't think they picture us as being one of the teams with the best record. And I don't think anyone will pick us to go the route and win the Super Bowl from now on."

The kick that all Washington will remember for years to come began its trip toward the goal posts around 3:45 p.m. on December 19.

From 42 yards out, Mark Moseley nailed the ball well enough to send it over the crossbar, even though Giants linebacker Byron Hunt tipped it at the line of scrimmage. The field goal gave the Redskins a 15-14 victory, put them in the playoffs for the first time since 1976 and put Moseley into the league record books.

It was his 21st straight success over two years, breaking Garo Yepremian's three-year-old record. It was the second time he had won a game this season with a final-seconds kick. But the Redskins had learned early on to rely on his right foot. In six of their first seven triumphs, his field goals provided the margin of victory.

Moseley's heroics have made him a legitimate candidate for the NFL's most valuable player award. Considering how insecure his job was during training camp, that's quite a turnaround.

He wasn't even sure he would be with the Redskins this year until after the final preseason game, when rookie Dan Miller, his first legitimate challenger in eight years, botched two field-goal attempts.



Joe Theismann (above) has provided the arm, Mark Moseley (top right) the leg and John Riggins the heart in a formidable Redskins attack.



for short-yardage and goal-line situations. Little did the player or his coach imagine it would become an integral part of the Redskins' regular offense.

To understand the importance of this seemingly routine little exercise and its namesake, you first have to understand what Gibbs calls "Redskin Football."

Last year, it was expected Gibbs would produce Air Coryell East, with plenty of passing and high scoring. He had been an aide to Don Coryell in five years at St. Louis and two in San Diego. But that stunning 0-5 start, and its accompanying turnovers, penalties and erratic play, quickly told Gibbs the Redskins were not the Chargers.

Gibbs stopped trying to use Riggins and Joe Washington in the same backfield. He switched to a one-back, two tight-end offense, rediscovered the Redskins' hibernating running game, preached ball control, time of possession and the curse of turnovers. (Washington made 21 turnovers in those first 1981 five games, but just 16 in the first eight this year.)

Oh, the Redskins still pass frequently, but Gibbs restrained his aggressive offensive thinking enough to conform to the team's talent. "What the Redskins have now," said Dallas' per-

At the end of most practices, the Redskins run the Riggo Drill. Play after play, fullback John Riggins carries the ball, first off one tackle, then off the other.

Originally, the Riggo Drill was devised to prepare Riggins

Gibbs Sincere About His Second Job

By PAUL ATTNER

WASHINGTON—Every Sunday morning during the recent pro football players' strike, members of a Baptist church in suburban Virginia drove into the District of Columbia's inner city. They stopped at a group home for teen-agers where they conduct a Bible study class for the residents.

After one class, a youngster told counselor Larry Jiggetts that one church instructor looked very familiar.

"He should," Jiggetts replied. "That's Joe Gibbs, the Redskins' coach."

"No way," said the youngster. "What's Joe Gibbs doing here, teaching us?"

But Gibbs was there, helping to lead those classes instead of following his normal fall routine of preparing his team for its weekly National League Football game.

He first began his participation last winter, only to drop out five months later when training camp started. Because of the NFL strike, he became involved again.

"It was about the only positive thing about the strike," Gibbs said. "At least I was able to start working again with the kids on Sunday. It's something I really enjoy."

"When I was in Tampa (Gibbs was an assistant coach with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 1978), my church conducted a ministry with a local delinquents' home and I got involved in it and I really enjoyed it. When I came here, I told myself that I really wanted to get involved in something similar."

"One Sunday, during Sunday school, one of the members said he had some houses in the city and he had contracted to open them up to these teen-agers. He said he'd be willing to try a Bible class on Sunday, if anyone wanted to help."

"It was like an answer to my prayers. We jumped at the chance."

The district houses board teen-agers who are wards of the court. Some have had run-ins with the law. Some are truants. Some have no homes. Gibbs said a few counselors told him "they'd give me \$1,000 if the classes lasted more than two weeks. I guess that's what is so great. They are still going on."

In a profession in which some of his peers have been driven to work daily in limousines and others brag about owning 200 suits, Joe Gibbs is unique. But he says he doesn't see anything special about an NFL coach working with inner city youth every week, one reason he was reluctant to discuss his association with the teen-age homes.

"I don't want people to think I'm trying to get publicity for myself or tell the world about myself," he said. "The kids may think I really wasn't sincere about it."

But the Sunday classes served as a much-needed outlet for Gibbs, who rode an emotional roller coaster throughout the strike.

The outgoing, handsome son of a former North Carolina sheriff, Gibbs is in his second year as Redskins coach. Last season was a nightmare (0-5 start) that turned into a dream (8-3 finish). Then the Redskins won their first two 1982 games, beating Philadelphia and Tampa Bay, both 1981 playoff teams, on the road. That fast start made the timing of the strike especially devastating for the Redskins and Gibbs. Needless to say, they picked up where they left off when play resumed.

sonnel director Gil Brandt, "is a high-percentage, not a high-risk, offense. It's not conservative, just intelligent."

Said Gibbs, "We found if we can control the ball, not make more than two turnovers a game, run consistently and play aggressive defense, we can win. We still take our (passing) shots but we aren't going to succeed throwing 40 times every game."

Since the switch, Washington has consistently been among the league's best performers, winning eight of its last 11 in 1981 to finish 8-8 and then opening this season with a four-game winning streak before falling to Dallas.

But the winning hasn't come easy. In every game this season, opponents have either been ahead or within a touchdown sometime during the fourth quarter. Thus the need for the Riggo Drill.

Two years ago, Riggins, now 33, had retired from his \$300,000-a-year job when the Redskins refused to give him a hefty raise. He was granted permission to make his own trade, but failed. Last year, he played in the little shadow of Joe Washington, who led the team in both rushing and receiving. This year, with Washington recovering from a preseason knee operation and just now reaching top form, Riggins again was the Redskins' premier back.

No one in the league has carried the ball more this season than Riggins, particularly in the fourth quarter. Running behind a young, massive offensive line (four players are second-year starters) that averages 270 pounds, Riggo steamrolls over tacklers, surging for time-consuming first downs. And he has fumbled only once this season, that breaking a streak of 318 errorless rushes.

"What does he mean to us? He's invaluable," said Theismann. "When we get into the fourth period and we have to have a good drive to win, we have confidence John is going to do the job," said May, a second-year lineman. "It makes our job



Joe Gibbs . . . Not just a coach.

Normally a good humored man with a crackling laugh and a knack for telling long, funny stories, Gibbs became more and more frustrated as the strike lengthened. There was no outlet for his innovative mind, which normally would have been spewing out imaginative plays befitting the former offensive coordinator of the San Diego Chargers.

Gibbs, a linebacker on Don Coryell's early San Diego State teams, had served 16 years as a college and pro assistant before landing his first head coaching job. He thrives on the long hours, getting so involved that he is absent-mindedly blocks out the rest of the world. Don't ask him where his car is parked during the middle of the season. He won't be able to remember.

Joe Gibbs considers himself a born-again Christian. He also considers his youth work a natural extension of his beliefs.

"It's really rewarding for me," he said. "There is something about getting to know teen-agers that I particularly like."

"They have great personalities. They are really sharp, they don't miss a thing. They just haven't had all the chances we've had. And they undergo a lot of heavy peer pressure at an age when they are making crucial decisions about what they are going to do."

Don Murphy, a counselor who once tried out for the Red-

easier. We just hope his body can take it."

Riggins, now the No. 7 all-time leading NFL rusher and only the fifth man to carry more than 2,000 times, has been strengthened by a new-found fondness for weightlifting. But he told his real secret recently to a television audience of Redskins fans.

"I've never felt younger," said Riggins with a laugh. "I've stopped drinking barrels of beer."

George Young, the Giants' G.M., calls Joe Theismann "the Redskins' Pied Piper."

Theismann certainly is the Redskins' most visible player. And he arguably is also their most important commodity, con-

'I've never enjoyed playing more,' said Theismann. 'We've just begun to tap what this offense can do.'

sidering the extraordinary responsibilities Gibbs places on his quarterback.

"Except for a game or two, Joe has been as consistent as you could want from a quarterback," Gibbs said. "As he goes, we go. It's that simple. We have surrounded him with lots of different people (seven new offensive starters in two years), but now he knows who is going to play and when."

This Theismann is not the same model that rolled off the Notre Dame assembly line in the early 1970s and then spent his early years as a pro starter trying to perform the spectacular.

This Theismann is much more patient, much more mature, much more willing to listen to coaching. He has benefited from

skins as a defensive back and will now try again with the USFL's Washington Federals, said he is convinced that the Bible classes, which are voluntary and attract anywhere from five to 16 participants, have had an effect on the teenagers.

"I've seen a change in the kids' attitude," Murphy said. "Their behavior and respect toward one another have changed. They are calmer. They talk about the classes.

"They get so confused, they hear promises but they never see any follow-through. But that's what makes Coach Gibbs different. He is sincere and he means what he says. He was there every week, just like he said he would be. And he spoke to them like a friend. He's different from any coach I've seen in the NFL."

"What he does, it's so natural for him. He's an exciting man. The way he explains things to the kids is a gift. They see he is sincere, and that's the only way they'll start to listen. You aren't going to reach everyone, but if a few change, that's good. I told him 'You are doing (here) what you are supposed to be doing.'"

One of Gibbs' promises involved finding summer jobs for the teen-agers. He wound up hiring one youth as a Redskins ball boy at training camp. The youth now is a hero at the homes.

At first, Gibbs and Rennie Simmons, his best friend who is the Redskins' tight end coach and a member of the same Baptist church, brought game films to class. They thought it would be one way to attract the youngsters and keep their interest.

Within a few weeks, they stopped the films ("We'd look up and many of the kids would be leaving," Gibbs said) and kept the Bible discussions going for an hour or more every session.

"At the beginning, the kids knew that he was with the Redskins and that attracted them," Murphy said. "But the turnover of kids is so great the Redskin connection had less effect as the weeks went on. There must have been 50 different kids go through one of his classes. They wound up coming through word of mouth, not because of what team Joe Gibbs represents."

Gibbs and the other instructors try to show the youngsters how they could use the Bible for guidance in making decisions. They study sections of the Bible, give lessons and conduct open discussion periods to explain how religion can ease daily problems.

In return, the teachers also learned.

"A counselor told me that this one youngster, who hardly attended any of the activities, showed up a couple of times," Gibbs said. "He didn't talk at all but he took the counselor aside and told him, 'I'm trying to do what they say, but I'm having a tough time.'

"How can that not get to you and tug at your heart?"

Gibbs said it is frustrating at times because his schedule allows him only six months a year to do his church work. He also dreams of a better way to help the teen-agers.

"Maybe a farm in the country where they could have a complete program, counseling, education, jobs," he said. "The aim would be to get them ready to go out into society and be a useful citizen."

"I can see that happening down the road. I'm going to stay involved."

an upgraded receiving corps that features hard-nosed Art Monk and the elusive Charlie Brown, an eighth-round draft choice in 1981 (he missed the entire season because of an injury). Brown had eight receptions for more than 35 yards, including touchdown plays of 78, 65, 58 and 57 yards, in the first eight games. And Theismann has learned to appreciate Gibbs, the first offensive-minded head coach he has worked with in his pro career. Last year, the relationship between Theismann and Gibbs got off to a less than comfortable start. Although he was setting a bunch of club single-game passing records, Theismann was throwing too many interceptions during the 0-5 start.

While Gibbs tried to unravel the problem, the Redskins quietly were seeing what they could obtain in a trade for Theismann. But a late-night visit by the quarterback to his coach's home ("I just walked up and knocked on his door," Theismann said) opened up communication and began the brightest playing days of Theismann's life.

"I've never enjoyed playing more," said Theismann, who at 32 has made the Pro Bowl and the playoffs (as a starter) for the first time. "We've just begun to tap what this offense can do, which is the real excitement. I feel comfortable with the coaches, with my teammates and myself. I have a good idea of what they want me to do, where I should throw the ball. I no longer feel I have to make something happen for us to win. If I just do my job right, things will happen by design. I'm happy."

Theismann hardly was as happy after last season. He was a free agent who encountered a hard-nosed negotiating stance from the Redskins. He contacted seven teams about a possible contract bid or trade, but the league's stiff compensation rules scared off suitors. He finally signed a \$1.4 million, four-year contract after Owner Jack Kent Cooke tossed in an extra \$50,000 as a last-minute surprise.

Earlier this season, Theismann had a string of 96 passes (Continued on Page 25, Column 1)

Angels Due to Get Earful From the Lip

NEW YORK—Gene Autry plans to hire Leo Durocher as coach emeritus for the California Angels' spring camp. Lippy, feisty at 77, still thinks he can manage better than most of the kids he sees. . . . The NFL really is worried about all those empty seats that have accompanied the post-strike games. I doubt it's a permanent aftereffect. Fans have simply written off this season. They'll be back with the return of the 16-game season plus the regular playoff format, rather than the NFL Invitational that was cooked up to decide the Super Bowl XVIII contestants.

Now, even the rookies are hotdogging it. James Davis, a

Raiders cornerback, intercepted a pass against Denver and was running for a TD. In the clear at the 20, he raised the ball overhead to celebrate his first NFL touchdown and was hit from behind by a sprinting Bronco. Reminds me of Hotdog Dave Smith's act in a Monday night game in 1971. The Steelers tight end waved the ball short of goal, it slipped away and bounced through the end zone for a touchback, and Smith lost \$200 in his next paycheck. Steelers Coach Chuck Noll wasn't overjoyed, since Pittsburgh was a 38-16 loser to Kansas City that night. Fortunately for Davis, the Raiders beat Denver.

The Mets' trade of Pat Zachry to the Dodgers was one of

those addition-by-subtraction deals Branch Rickey used to talk about. He meant the team is better off without the player. The Mets were giving Zack \$400,000 a year and all the arm rubs he could eat. Ever since he signed a big contract, he went on his own version of Medicare and averaged just six wins over the last four seasons. Maybe Tom Lasorda, with a few hugs, can restore Zack's desire. The Mets-Dodgers deal originally was intended as a two-for-three swap of big-name players, but wound up as Zachry for Jorge Orta. "We were unable to put the final pieces together," according to Lou Gorman of the Mets. Rather than have the entire thing evaporate, and be stuck with

Zachry, the Mets took whatever they could get. They don't need Orta, who will be made part of another deal.

The American Airlines Golf Classic has been revived. That's the one which pairs an NFL player with a

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DICK YOUNG



baseball big leaguer from the same area, and both lie about their handicaps. It'll be held February 2-5 in Hawaii. . . . The standing eight-count invoked by the Nevada legislature for boxing in the state is for the birds. If a fighter is in that much trouble, the fight should be stopped, period. The new rule is a copout for the referee who can't make up his mind one way or the other. The object of a boxing match is to defeat the opponent. If I'm a boxer and am ahead to the point where I have my opponent set up for a knockout, is he entitled to a rest so he can come back and beat me?

I know this may cause Marvin Miller a coronary, but I really do believe he belongs in baseball's Hall of Fame. He had an irrefutable impact on the national pastime, and as such is part of its history. It may be tough convincing the Lords of Baseball, who run the Cooperstown museum, that the retired head of the players' association belongs in the shrine. . . . Joe Theismann is nuts the way he blocks downfield. The Redskins' quarterback did as clean a scythe job on Giants cornerback Terry Jackson as I've ever seen. In an earlier game with the Giants, he cut down Lawrence Taylor, and said, "I thought a horse fell on me."

Who ever thought a player of Lee Mazzilli's quality a couple years ago would be traded for four minor leaguers at age 27? The Pirates say the four farmhands they gave the Yankees for Maz are major league prospects, but neutral scouts tell me only one, shortstop Jose Rivera, fits that billing.

You want to know to what extent TV has NFL officials brainwashed? Incident: Chargers vs. Bengals. Ken Anderson is tackled behind the goal for a safety, giving San Diego a 26-24 lead. On the ensuing free punt, Chargers make a fair catch at their 40. Inexplicably, the ball is returned for a repeat free kick, which is returned to the San Diego 47. It turns out that Pat McInally had made the first punt without receiving the signal from official Fritz Graf, who had not received the signal from the TV director. The TV audience, watching a commercial, had missed the original punt, so it was rerun—the punt, not the commercial. Understand, TV did not order the repunt, but the NFL official ordered the replay because he has been properly conditioned. Question: What if the second punt had been fumbled away, or run back for a TD? And all because a TV commercial had not run its full course.

THIS WEEK'S LINEUP

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TSN BRIEFING . . .

Song and Dance

The auctioning of Steve Garvey, featuring the player recently stripped of Dodger blue, turned out to be the Steve and Jerry (Kapstein) Show, your basic song and dance routine with a couple of guys who, like snakeoil salesmen, couldn't wait to hotfoot it to the next county. Garvey, who's not supposed to fool anyone, may have fooled us all. (Column on page 12.)

They're No. 1

Todd Blackledge evoked memories of oldtime quarterbacks in his black high-top shoes, but he proved to be the passing prototype of the '80s in leading Penn State to college football's No. 1 ranking with a 27-23 victory over Georgia and Herschel Walker in the Sugar Bowl. (Story on page 15.)

Advantage Redskins

The Washington Redskins appeared to be the NFC's best-tuned machine after humbling St. Louis, 28-0, in the regular season's final game. And the victory sewed up the home-field advantage for Washington (8-1), so long as the Skins remain in the Super Bowl hunt. (Story on page 20.)

New England Enigma

They remain less than enamored with their coach, but the New England Patriots, 2-14 a year ago, are at least headed in the right direction on the field. Under disciplinarian Ron Meyer, they qualified for the AFC playoffs with a 30-19 victory over the Buffalo Bills. (Story on page 21.)

Tinker Time

Suddenly, college basketball is sprouting "experimental" shot clocks and three-point field goals, and more than one coach is worried. "We're going to tinker with the product until it's unhealthy," said Washington State's George Raveling. "We're supposed to give an alternative to the NBA, not imitate it." (Story on page 37.)

Nonconformist

The rough-edges play of Kiki Vandeweghe sometimes drives Denver's Doug Moe to distraction, but the hot-and-cold relationship with his coach is just the tip of the Vandeweghe iceberg. Kiki is something less than a conformist off the court, too, in his own quiet, comfortable way. (Story on page 39.)

Finn-ished Product

Cursed with having to play in Wayne Gretzky's shadow, Jari Kurri may be the best European player in the National Hockey League anyway. Nobody from across the seas is in the Finnish product's league defensively. Kurri is the backchecker on the Gretzky line, and he rarely gets caught out of position. (Column on page 41.)

Indigestion

After losing \$3 million last season, the White Sox were looking for ways to trim the 1983 budget. Don't be surprised if they decide to "eat" the final year of out-of-favor outfielder Ron LeFlore's contract, estimated at \$750,000. They may not have to, depending on the disposition of drug and firearms possession charges pending against LeFlore. (Story on page 48.)

The Sporting News

OUR OPINION

Help From Uncle Sam

Every once in a while the federal government comes up with a good idea. Bob Hurt of the Arizona Republic reported on one such idea the other day.

The Justice Department has formed a squad of former athletes who now work as agents for the FBI or the Drug Enforcement Administration. Their assignment is to lecture professional athletes in baseball, football, basketball and hockey on the perils of becoming involved in drugs, bribery, extortion, betting, etc.

The FBI's John Hinchcliffe told Hurt: "You have to think about the impact sports has on our nation. Anytime a hero sells his integrity, it has a damaging effect on society as a whole."

The aim of the program is to establish rapport with the players in the hope an athlete would contact an agent if he has a problem or sees one on the horizon. The street-wise agents talk tough and lay out the consequences of becoming involved in illegal situations.

The agents report that the athletes have been very receptive to the program and credit their presentation with pointing at least one NBA player toward a drug rehabilitation program.

When Hurt asked DEA agent Omar Aleman if there was a serious drug problem in the NBA, he replied: "There's smoke in the NBA, the same way there is smoke in the NFL and in baseball and in society as a whole. Except they (the athletes) are not society as a whole. They think they are, but they're not. They are paid a hell of a lot of money to do a lot of jobs. And one of the jobs is for the children of America to look up to them."

The program has considerable merit. Its success could go a long way in cleaning up the seamy side of professional sports.

New Printer, New Look

This week we've got a new printer and a new look.

After many years of association with Mid-America Printing Co. of St. Louis, THE SPORTING NEWS has signed a printing contract with Journal Newspapers Inc. of Springfield, Va., near Washington. The contract is effective with this issue.

We feel that Journal's ultramodern equipment and high-speed presses will result in an improved product for our readers. Ultimately, the transfer should give subscribers and newsstand buyers a more consistent pattern of delivery.

The new, streamlined logos which adorn columns and departments this week were designed by Art Director Bill Perry. We feel the new graphics reflect our continuing commitment to give you a brighter, more readable product.

While the printing operation moves to the Washington area, TSN's editorial and business offices will remain in St. Louis and the subscription service will remain in Marion, O.

Meanwhile, our circulation continues to climb at an unprecedented rate. We passed the half-million mark in weekly sales last year and, in 1983, we anticipate climbing toward 600,000 and beyond. If that pattern continues, we'll have a good shot at reaching 1 million by our 100th anniversary in 1986. We're grateful to our readers, new and longtime, for this tremendous support. Thank you, and Happy New Year.



Prophets of Doom?

I have become quite enthralled with the prophetic nature of your cover articles over the past month. First, it was the "new heights" reached by the Fighting Irish (TSN, November 15). Notre Dame then proceeded to tumble to new depths by losing three in a row. Next, it was the Steelers (December 6) stirring up memories of "old times." Someone forgot to tell them how "old" the old times were (early 1970s?) and they were subsequently mauled: two shutout losses in three weeks.

Now, Kenny "The Shakes" Stabler and the "Aints" emboss the cover (December 20) and—whoops—Falcons 35, Aints 0; Cowboys 21, Aints 7.

Unquestionably superb performances, gentlemen. Kudos.

DR. RONALD SCARPINATO

Jacksonville, Fla.

Requiem for the Rams

During the past few years in pro sports, club owners have gotten together to eliminate owners who have hurt their sport. Now it's time for the NFL owners and Pete Rozelle to come together and investigate the grim situation in Anaheim.

Only two years ago, the Rams were a powerful franchise. But they have deteriorated quickly to become the worst franchise in the league. It all stems from the front office and not the players on the field. The club has no direction and a lame duck coach who has sold his soul to Mrs. Georgia Frontiere. Don Klosterman, rated by his peers as a football brain, has been relegated to a club spokesman. And Mrs. Frontiere, rather than hire people who know much more about the game than she does, continues to handle all player moves and football transactions.

As a Rams rooter for the past 12 years, I'm very displeased. Other Rams fans across the country must feel the same way. It's time for the league to act before the Rams' franchise folds.

ARPRELL WALKER

Houston

Athletic Supporters

In his December 20 column, Bill Conlin states, "Before the Tampa folks claim they can support a big league franchise, shouldn't they prove they can support something more substantial than a Florida State League entry?"

Someone please ask Mr. Conlin what he thinks the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Tampa Bay Rowdies are. And we've been supporting major league baseball every spring for the past 50 years.

But what would you expect from a writer who spends 10 paragraphs writing about something (trades) that didn't happen in Hawaii?

JIM DYMTRON

Largo, Fla.

Who's Next?

The baseball booby prize for 1982 belongs to Brewers General Manager Harry Dalton for suggesting that scouts be made eligible for Hall of Fame election.

The Hall always should have been the sacred preserve of players and managers, period. It is regrettable that commissioners, league presidents, general managers and umpires live side by side with Cobb, Ruth and Wagner, Aaron, Mantle and Mays.

It is late in the game, but Hall officials would do well to halt further dilution by decreeing, effective immediately, that only players and managers may be elected. Let recognition be given those in related categories who have contributed to the game—but in a wing, as for writers and broadcasters, or in a separate building.

If scouts are allowed in, who's next? Groundkeepers and concessionaires?

J. M. MURPHY

Pawtucket, R.I.

A Tough Act to Follow

Terry Forster predicts a 1983 National League flag for his new team, the Atlanta Braves (TSN, December 20). Was he misquoted when he stated the Dodgers could not even win the pennant last year when they had Steve Garvey and Forster for the entire season?

The Dodgers will miss Garvey in 1983, but doesn't Forster remember that the Dodgers would have tied the Braves for first place on the last day of the regular season had he not given up a late-inning three-run home run to the Giants' Joe Morgan?

Forster has a tough act to follow if he plans to be more valuable to the Braves in 1983 than he was in 1982.

BEN GRANT

Asheville, N.C.

Into the Valley of Death

Steve Kemp is quoted as saying (TSN, December 20) that he chose to sign with the Yankees over the Orioles because he "wanted to play for a contender, in a park that was conducive to (his) power." These reasons are a sham. The Orioles fit both criteria to a higher degree than the Yankees. The real reason was the money.

I had hoped Kemp would be willing to play for less money if he could sign with a better team which plays in a park more

VOICE OF THE FAN

"conducive" to his talents. Apparently, these hopes were ill-founded. Kemp seems to be following the same course taken by Dave Collins, late of the Yankees.

Kemp is a lefthanded opposite-field hitter who complained long and hard about the depth of Comiskey Park's fences. He will find things no better in Yankee Stadium's "death valley."

Kemp also will find a roster full of big names does not always make a pennant winner, or even a contender. Baltimore, Detroit and Boston will make him wish he had chosen more carefully. "Death valley" will make him wish he had never left Detroit.

DONALD S. SMITH

Westminster, Md.

In Finley's League

It's hard to believe that the Cincinnati Reds, the dominant N.L. team of the 1970s, are now a last-place club. Dick Wagner, by allowing his players to leave by free agency and poor trades, has put himself in the same league with Charles O. Finley, who destroyed the Oakland A's back in the 1970s.

Reds fans can only wonder what kind of team they would have had if Wagner had been able to re-sign Pete Rose, Joe Morgan, Don Gullett, Dave Collins, Mike Lum and Bob Shirley. And the players Wagner got in return for the trading of Tony Perez, Ken Griffey, George Foster, Ray Knight and Rawly Eastwick haven't helped the team.

The trading of Tom Seaver back to the Mets and allowing Shirley to sign with the Yankees darkens the picture for next year. The only hope for Reds fans is for them to stay away from Riverfront Stadium next summer. Maybe the lack of ticket revenue will force Owner William J. Williams to sell the club. And maybe an owner with some money to spend will buy the Reds and keep some of the players who might otherwise leave by the free agency route.

STEVEN C. WRIGHT

Williamsport, Pa.

Poor Examples

Joe Falls and Dick Young are the Abbott and Costello of sports journalism.

Falls' column (TSN, December 20) on the Baseball Encyclopedia game was the final straw. It was only one of a series of ludicrous, meaningless columns.

Young's opinionated articles appeal to no one but himself, and are totally groundless.

As high school sports journalists, we are far from the top, but Falls' and Young's writings are certainly nothing to strive for.

BRETT HAIT

JAMIE ALFIERI

Santa Rosa, Calif.

Two-Timers

I just finished Furman Bisher's enlightening column (TSN, December 20) which revealed that Ed Smith, a halfback from the past at NYU, was the model for the Heisman Trophy figure. That should settle a lot of arguments and claims—from Jay Berwanger to Red Grange—about who was depicted on the trophy.

However, Bisher says in the same column that Charley (Choo Choo) Justice was the only Heisman winner to finish runner-up twice. I believe you will find that Army's Glenn Davis also finished second twice, losing to Les Horvath of Ohio State in 1944 and to teammate Felix (Doc) Blanchard in 1945 before winning the trophy himself in 1946.

JACK MEYERS

Kansas City

The Gospel, According to James

Critics of Robin Yount's selection as a Gold Glove winner (Voice, December 27) should not take off their dunce caps until they have read Bill James' *Baseball Abstract*. James updates the book each year, and it deals only with statistical facts. Yount had the best defensive rating (.80) among shortstops in the major leagues in 1981.

Yount finished second (4.812) to Toronto's Alfredo Griffin (4.93) last season among the top 11 shortstops in the A.L. in total errorless chances per game, the most important fielding statistic there is, according to James.

If Yount doesn't deserve a 1982 Gold Glove, then Griffin does. Yes, it is incredible that a player with gold bats can win Gold Gloves. Yet they do, according to the statistical facts published by Bill James.

By the way, it is lucky for the A.L. that St. Louis' Ozzie Smith doesn't play there. He had 5.86 errorless chances per game, more than one per game above Griffin's or Yount's totals.

PATRICK K. WALSH

West Allis, Wis.

Fourth Is Fourth

The Detroit Tigers are bragging about signing all of their free agents and, also, of signing Jack Morris, a pitcher. It sounds fine, but it doesn't solve anything.

The Tigers still have the same team that finished fourth in 1982. In 1983, they will have a higher-salaried fourth-place finisher, and Detroit fans will have to pay more to see the Tigers finish fourth again.

J. T. ALLEN

Greenville, Tex.

WE WILL GUIDE YOU STEP-BY-STEP

into your own thriving business



A True Story By Bob Ferrel

SOME YEARS AGO I was a printer in a small Michigan town. I drew a pretty fair pay check but it wouldn't stretch far enough to provide the kind of living I wanted for my wife and five children.

Then one day I was reading a magazine just as you now are and I saw an ad. It intrigued me. It offered me the steadily growing income I had always hoped for. It said I would have greater security and personal independence... and that's what I had been wanting.

I was a little skeptical, but I said to myself, "for a postage stamp I can find out." So I mailed the coupon. In a few days, I got a letter with a booklet that gave the whole story. It opened my eyes. I could see why owning my own business was so much easier than I had always thought... why the day-to-day guidance of a successful worldwide organization could assure my own success.

I read the booklet several times. It just seemed too good to be true. I talked it over with my wife. We decided that now was the time to make the forward step... there was no reason to keep postponing an income increase.

So, I applied for a Duraclean dealership and I was accepted. I stayed with my job... ran a few ads... sent some mailings... contacted a few stores and told my friends about the superior services I was now equipped to give them. Evenings and Saturdays, I rendered the service. As the business grew, I added servicemen.

I found that I didn't have to develop a single idea myself. Every step has been prepared for me and pre-tested. Hundreds of other men had already proven my methods successful.

It didn't take long to see that I was making three to four times (yes, 3 to 4 times) as much per hour in my own business as in my printing job. So, after only seven months with a good following of customers, I quit my job to go full time on my own. In the meantime, I had enjoyed all this extra income on top of my salary.

Each day, we realized what a serious mistake not mailing that coupon would have been... and how that little act that seemed so trivial at the time actually changed our lives.

The steadily growing income brought us many things we could not afford before. My efforts were so much more productive. I scheduled my time to my own liking. When we wanted a day or two off, we took it. I worked hard but, if I wanted to be home early or quit at noon, I did.

This is not a business for a lazy man. But if a man is ambitious and will work to deserve those nice things in life we all want, this business is made to order for such a man.

I became so enthusiastic about this business and so appreciative of what it had brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealership near me, I helped him get a quick start.

The company learned about this and had each new dealer in my section of Michigan spend a day with me. One day the

president of Duraclean Company asked me how I would like to move to Headquarters and spend my entire time helping dealers to increase their sales and profits.

That was good news to my ears. Since then I have worked with hundreds of our dealers in their own towns and at regional meetings, conventions and dealer group meetings, and by letter and telephone. All the top officers here take an interest in each dealer's success.

Incidentally I sold my dealership at a good profit. Many dealers sell their dealerships for several times their cost. If for any reason a dealer wants to sell, we maintain a service to locate buyers and help him sell.

Our job here at headquarters is to show each individual Duraclean dealer how to use his own abilities to bring him greatest success. I know hundreds of our dealers on a first name basis. We work together as one happy family. If you become a Duraclean dealer, we are as close to you as your telephone or mail box.

It's Easier Than You Think To Build Your Own Business

If you've wanted to BE YOUR OWN BOSS... to become financially independent and have a fast growing income, now YOU CAN. And you own a Nationally Advertised business.

You can stay at your present job while your customer list grows... then switch to full time, lining up jobs for your servicemen to do. One job a day brings a good starting income.

If you hire two servicemen (full or part time) while you keep your job, the national price guide provides you a gross profit of \$14 an hour on their work and this is much easier to do than you think. We show you how... step by step. That's \$490 for a 35 hour week.

Your gross profit on three servicemen is \$21 per hour. Duraclean dealers find it easy to gross \$7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus \$12 an hour on any service they themselves render. The 32 page illustrated booklet we'll mail you (with no obligation) explains how most of your gross profit becomes clear net profit. Your income is limited only by the number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your home. Equipment is light and portable.

At the start, you may want to render service yourself... or you can start with full or part time servicemen. This business is easy to learn... easy to start. We prefer you have no experience... not have to "unlearn" old ways.

Duraclean is enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses. If you are reliable, honest and willing to work to become financially independent, we invite you to mail the coupon.

When you receive our illustrated booklet, you will see how you are guided step by step to quickly get customers... and still more customers from their recommendations.

You have 7 superior services that are rendered "on location" in homes, offices, hotels, theaters, clubs, motels and institutions.

These are not ordinary services. You have the prestige and endorsement of leading furniture makers and carpet mills, and of Research and Testing Laboratories.

National magazine advertising explains superior merits of your services, builds your customer's confidence and brings job leads to you. Your headquarters and a Duraclean dealer will train you and assist you. He'll reveal his successful, proven methods. You have pre-tested newspaper and yellow-page ads, commercials, and a full mailing program.

Stores, upholsterers, insurance adjustors, and decorators refer jobs to our dealers. These year 'round services are in constant demand.

**While keeping your present job,
let servicemen greatly increase
your income**

Start Small, Grow Big In This Booming Business

Many men have said to us, "I can't afford to give up my job till I know I have a sure thing... a sound business that will provide both security and a better living for my family."

That made sense to us so we worked out such a plan... and those same men are now enjoying Duraclean dealerships worldwide. You don't experiment. You use tested, proven methods. You have Duraclean's backing and 50 years of "know how."

Does this appeal to you? Don't decide now. Mail the coupon so you'll have the facts to decide wisely. There is no obligation. You'll then know whether this is what you want.

You can start small and grow big. A half century ago Duraclean was an idea... but it caught fire and spread to a worldwide service. Why did it spread? (1) superior processes, (2) proven customer-getting methods, (3) day to day guidance from headquarters.

Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivens the fibers... revives dull colors. Pile rises with new life. There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soaking. Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Government figures show service businesses are growing faster than industries and stores... \$750 million yearly potential just in rug and furniture cleaning. Your 6 other services are explained in the free booklet we'll mail you.

You can start a dealership for as little as \$3,488. Another option is an \$11,588 full cash investment, and if you qualify, Duraclean can work out financing for half this amount.

We furnish electric equipment and, with first shipment, enough materials for you to return your TOTAL investment. If you have good habits and know the importance of customer satisfaction, you can likely qualify for a Duraclean dealership.

TODAY is the time to reserve a Duraclean dealership before someone takes your location.

It's been said, "Opportunity knocks but once at every man's door." This could be that one rare opportunity in your life.

It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with no obligation whatever, mail the coupon TODAY. Cut it out NOW so you won't forget to mail it.



**Duraclean
International**

**The first step—send
for FREE Booklet today!**

DURACLEAN INTERNATIONAL

3-H31 Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, IL 60015

With no obligation, mail 32 page illustrated booklet telling how and why I can quickly increase my income and family security while still employed, how you'll help finance me. No salesman will call on me.

PRINT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

KEEPING SCORE

Think About It

The intelligence of athletes is one of the most debated subjects in sports. Probably from the time of the gladiators, athletes generally have been assigned to the "dumb jock" category.

Of course, there are athletes with superior mental capacity, many of whom have become doctors, lawyers, scientists, etc. The question of whether their intelligence made them better athletes was examined recently by the Los Angeles Times, and the conclusion was that brains may actually hinder performance.

College coaches often recruit athletes with inadequate classroom and communications skills. But then, the mental capacity of a running back is not considered as important as speed in the 40-yard dash. Likewise, many coaches and psychologists believe that athletes can be too smart for their own good and that low I.Q. scores have little effect on how an athlete performs.

Al McGuire, the former Marquette basketball coach who now is an analyst on NBC college basketball telecasts, was quoted as saying: "What it takes to be a great player, beyond raw talent, is self-centeredness and a certain numbness to the crowd. Superintelligent people can't be superb athletes. They're too aware."

McGuire amplified his statement, saying, "I think the world is run by C students," and he said he would want that C student to shoot the key free throws for him in a crucial game. "Give me a C student and I'll win the championship ring," he said. "I prefer him to the one who sits at the head of the class."

According to McGuire, the Phi Beta Kappa-type athlete would tend to tighten up in the game situation because he realized what was at stake. "The average student would not be as conscious as a Phi Beta Kappa," McGuire said. "A good fourth-quarter player is not a Phi Beta Kappa."

Dr. Richard Lister, a clinical and sports psychologist in Costa Mesa, Calif., is studying the personalities of professional athletes to determine what characteristics contribute to their success. He said that intelligence can be a hindrance, that an athlete "can outthink himself."

Said Lister, "An intelligent batter, for example, may calculate the wind, score, inning, pitcher, stadium and count to determine what pitch should be thrown. But the pitcher may not be as smart and throws something else."

Dr. Laurence Morehouse, in the book "Maximum Performance," said, "When it comes to performance, knowledge is not always power." He said that what was necessary for good performance was "a pure mind uncluttered by analytical thought."

Weekend golfers have a good description when their swings go bad by too much thinking. They call it "paralysis by analysis."

The Travelling Terp

One of the most amazing stories of the college bowl season involved the journey of Bob Gunderman, a Maryland defensive back, as he made his way to Honolulu for the Aloha Bowl game with Washington on Christmas Day.

Gunderman suffered a broken finger and missed the team's charter flight to Hawaii as he received treatment. He was given a Washington-to-New York-to-Los Angeles-to-Honolulu ticket for a Pan Am flight.

In New York, he got off and asked a stewardess where he should go next. He was told to report to Gate 12. A few hours later, after his flight set down, he noticed everyone was speaking "Venezuelan" (Spanish). He had landed in Caracas, and had no money or passport.

Gunderman was given \$5 by a good samaritan and bought two soft drinks and a sandwich. "I knew not to drink the water, or is that in Mexico?" Gunderman said.

After 10 hours, he was put on a plane to Los Angeles, where airport authorities questioned his story and made him produce his bowl tickets. Finally, he flew on to Honolulu and joined the

INSIDERS SAY

MAJOR JONES a forward for the Houston Rockets, asked what the team is like this season without Moses Malone: "A dispersal draft."

HUGH DURHAM Georgia basketball coach, on the Southeastern Conference's new 45-second shot clock: "That won't be a factor for us. We'll either shoot the ball or throw it away by then."

LOU HOLTZ Arkansas football coach, explaining why he was going to use defensive end Billy Ray Smith as his field goal kicker in the Bluebonnet Bowl game with Florida: "Because Billy Ray comes closer when he misses than the other guys."

JIM VALVANO basketball coach at North Carolina State, on his adjustment from New York City to a Raleigh, N.C., lifestyle: "As best as an Italian married to a Jewish broad can be accepted in North Carolina, I am."



By BOB MCCOY,
Executive News Editor



Maryland team, receiving a standing ovation. The Terps are calling his adventures "Gunderman's travels."

Meanwhile, Pan Am spokesman Jim Arey admitted the airline had erred in routing Gunderman to Venezuela, but he asked: "Why on earth did he go to New York to go to Honolulu? There are direct flights from Washington."

Mr. Smith Goes to Detroit

Jim Smith, added to the Detroit Pistons' roster for 10 days as a replacement for injured Kelly Tripucka, finally defeated Old Man Winter and caught up with the team.

First, the Pistons wanted the 6-9, 225-pound power forward, who had been playing with the Wyoming Wildcatters in the Continental Basketball Association, to join them Sunday, December 26, in Milwaukee. But Smith was unable to get a flight out of snowbound Wyoming. The Pistons moved on to Salt Lake City for a game with the Utah Jazz on December 28. Smith was to fly from Casper, Wyo., and join the Pistons, but his plane was routed through Minneapolis, where it was grounded by a snowstorm.

After missing two games, Smith made it to Phoenix in time for the Pistons' 115-98 loss to the Suns December 30. He hit both of his shots from the field and scored five points in his debut.

If You've Got It . . .

Viewers of an Australian rules football championship game on ESPN apparently did not get the entire picture. This was a match between Carlton and Richmond, and there was some editing of the film.

At one point, a young woman pranced onto the field in the altogether. The streaker, Helen D'Amico, said she did it because she was excited when her team, Carlton, went ahead. She was fined \$1,000 for her indiscretion, but later was offered a \$30,000 contract by a nightclub.

Back to Earth

You'll recall Mark Henderson, the prisoner who became an instant celebrity by clearing the path for the New England Patriots' winning field goal against the Miami Dolphins in a snowstorm December 12. Henderson, on a work-release program at Norfolk Correctional Institute, was operating a snowplow that day as part of his job on the maintenance crew at Schaefer Stadium.

Guess where Henderson was the next morning? His assignment for that day was cleaning the toilets at the stadium.

"I just hope I can get an early pardon out of all this," Henderson said.

Your Honor, Start Your Engine

Judge Harry Sauce III of Noblesville, Ind., had a boyhood dream of driving in the Indianapolis 500 auto race. In March, he'll be driving practice laps at the speedway and some day he may get to start at Indy.

Sauce, 36, a 12-year veteran in Sports Car Club of America racing, has been named the No. 2 driver for the Indianapolis-based C&H Racing Team. The No. 1 driver is Bob Harkey.

"I am ready to face the challenge with some trepidation, but more exhilaration," said the Hamilton County Court judge.

YOUR QUESTION PLEASE



By JOHN DUXBURY

Q. Could you please list the pro basketball scoring statistics for Charles (Chico) Vaughn, the leading scorer in Southern Illinois University history with 2,088 points? . . . Tim Parks, Marion, Ill.

A. Vaughn played five seasons (1962-63 through '66-67) in the National Basketball Association with St. Louis and Detroit and three seasons in the American Basketball Association (1967-68 through '69-70) with Pittsburgh and Minnesota.

He averaged 8.9 points a game in 327 regular-season NBA games and 17.7 points a game in 164 ABA regular-season contests. In eight seasons in the NBA and ABA, he scored 5,822 points in 491 games for an average of 11.9 a game.

His best NBA scoring season was 1964-65, when he averaged 11.6 for St. Louis. In the ABA, he averaged 19.8 for Pittsburgh in 1967-68.

Q. How tall are Steve Garvey, Bill Russell and Ron Cey? . . . Bruce McTavish, Angeles City, The Philippines.

A. The Dodgers' 1982 media guide listed Garvey at 5-10, Russell at 6-8 and Cey at 5-9.

Q. Did Don Sutton ever pitch for the New York Mets? . . . Al Dow, Tracy, Calif.

A. No. He spent the first 16 years (1965-80) of his pre baseball career in the Los Angeles Dodgers' organization. Signed as a free agent by the Houston Astros on December 4, 1980, he was traded to the Milwaukee Brewers on August 30, 1982.

Q. Didn't Duke University basketball Coach Mike Krzyzewski play college basketball for Bobby Knight at Indiana University? What's Krzyzewski's college coaching record? . . . Rich Bysina, Addison, Ill.

A. Krzyzewski played college basketball at Army while Knight was the head coach there. Krzyzewski averaged 5.3 points a game in 1966-67, 6.4 in '67-68 and 6.7 in '68-69.

In eight seasons as a college head coach, including a 5-3 record through December, Krzyzewski has compiled a 105-82 record. He was 11-14, 29-8, 19-9, 14-11 and 9-17 at Army from 1975-76 through '79-80 and he was 17-13 and 10-17 the last two seasons at Duke.

The season prior to becoming head coach at Army (1974-75), Krzyzewski was a graduate assistant coach under Knight at Indiana.

Q. What six players hit 20 or more home runs for the 1965 Milwaukee Braves and how many homers did each hit? Is that a record? How many homers did the Braves hit in 1965? Is that a record? . . . Mike Lavery, Rock Island, Ill.

A. Eddie Mathews and Hank Aaron, each 32 homers; Mack Jones, 31; Joe Torre, 27; Felipe Alou, 23 and Gene Oliver, 21. This is the National League record for the most players on one team with 20 or more homers and the '65 Braves are tied with the 1961 New York Yankees and the 1964 Minnesota Twins for the major league record.

The Braves hit 196 homers in 1965. This is the 20th highest total in major league history. The major league record is 240 by the 1961 Yankees.

Q. Could you please tell me something about former Green Bay Packers guard Jerry Kramer? What date was he born? . . . Toni Erickson, Portland, Ore.

A. Kramer was born January 23, 1936, at Jordon, Mont. He attended high school in Sandpoint, Idaho and college at the University of Idaho. He was selected by Green Bay in the fourth round of the 1958 NFL draft and played with the Packers from 1958 through 1968. In addition to playing offensive guard for the Packers, he was also used as a place-kicker and scored 177 points kicking in the NFL.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA QUESTION: Preston Carpenter led the Cleveland Browns in rushing in 1956 with 756 yards on 188 carries.

THIS WEEK'S TRIVIA QUESTION: Who was the only member of the Green Bay Packers in Super Bowl I to gain yardage both rushing and with a pass reception?

Do you have a question on sports trivia, history or records? If so, send it to John Duxbury, THE SPORTING NEWS, P.O. Box 56, St. Louis, Mo. 63166. Please understand that because of the large volume of mail we cannot answer all questions in the column and we cannot personally respond to letters.

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Ogre in Bo Is Just an Image

PASADENA, Calif.—My nomination for the most misunderstood man in sports is Bo Schembechler, the University of Michigan football coach. Almost everybody views him as something of an ogre.

That's because he acts like an ogre. He always seems to be screaming at somebody—the officials, his players and even the members of the media.

Sometimes he throws his cap down in disgust—a little emphasis here—and that makes him seem even more ornery.

It is all a charade—a way for him to get his job done. He thinks he has to be tough to get his way, and maybe he does, but this isn't the true nature of the man or even close to it.

It is the image he projects and it is an image the media accepts. It's far more delicious to write and talk about a coach who rants and raves than one who sits around smoking his cigar and talks about the true values of life.

Let's take a close-up look at Bo in an unguarded moment at the Rose Bowl and see if you know what I mean.

It's a few days before the game and he sits in an empty conference room. The door is closed and it is very quiet. Bo leans back in his chair and slowly lights up a cigar.

"This is the best time of all," he says, taking a long puff on the cigar and watching the smoke swirl up to the ceiling.

Bo has just come from a rather raucous radio show, where he and his wife, Millie, sat in the lobby of the Huntington Hotel while a man behind a microphone asked him about their life together—how they met, how they fell in love, how they put up with each other.

Bo was in rare form and he had the audience howling. Some 50 people pulled up chairs and crowded around the table where the interview took place.

It was great theater and they laughed at almost everything Bo said—even the things that weren't funny.

Bo kept them in stitches for some 20 minutes. Millie wasn't bad, either.

Bo had just come from the press room, where he had held his daily press conference. That room was packed, too. He sat on a sofa, surrounded by microphones, and provided the picturesque patter that is so important to the media people covering the Rose Bowl.

Again, he was in control—charming them with his wit and wisdom.

Now, in the seclusion of this conference room, where he would soon hold another meeting—this one with his coaches—he took a moment for himself.

"That other stuff (meaning the press conference and radio show) is all right," Bo says, "but what I love the most is coaching. I love coaching football."

"What do you like best about it?" he is asked.

"The kids," he says.

Any guy who gets into coaching strictly for himself is making the greatest mistake of his life. There isn't enough there for you. Not with what you have to put up with.

"You've got to do it for the players," Bo says. "They're

JOE FALLS



the ones who really count. They're young, with their whole lives ahead of them, and you, as a coach, get a chance to help them get started right in life. That's what coaching is all about. Helping these young men get started."

Bo looked right across the table.

"Do you know who my best friends are?" he asks.

"It's the kids who played for me and come back later to visit me. They've been out in the world and they know what playing football at Michigan meant to them. It meant an education—a chance to learn and make something of themselves."

"Do you know who I'm proudest of—of all the players I ever had?"

"Mike Trgovac, who played for us in the late '70s, that's who. He just called me the other day and he's working with a law firm in Boston. You should have heard him on the phone—quiet, dignified, articulate."

"When I got him, he was tough. Tough. Tough. He was a street fighter. He'd cut you in half as quick as look at you. His dad told me I'd be sorry I ever had him on my team. I told his dad I'd bat him across the mouth if he got out of line."

"You saw him play—ever see a guy give more on the field? And now, today, to think he is a maturing man making it in the outside world . . . that means more to me than 12 Rose Bowl games."

The door of the room opened. Bo's coaches stood there. They acted like intruders. One of them held a movie camera.

"Come in, come in," he says. He motioned them into the room.

"Excuse me, but we've got to go to work," he says.

"Looking for more Mike Trgovacs?"

Bo took a long pull on his cigar.

"You got it," said The Ogre.



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Bo Schembechler . . . Misunderstood.

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The Yankees Have a Me\$\$age for Elway

ST. LOUIS—The Yankees, obviously, are going all out to convince outfielder John Elway that his future is in baseball, not football. "The first thing we'll try to get across to John is that he can have a longer career in baseball," said Bill Bergesch, vice-president, operations, for the New York club. "Secondly, we can show where the top players in baseball earn more money than those in football. And thirdly, when a baseball player's career is over, his pension is not only better than a football player's, but is one of the best in all

STAN
ISLE



Associate Editor

industry." Stanford quarterback Elway, runner-up in the Heisman Trophy voting, promises to be a high NFL draft choice. He batted .318 at Oneonta (New York-Penn) in his first professional baseball season. . . . Only Southern Methodist star Eric Dickerson, among the five top rushers in NCAA Division I, used up his eligibility in 1981. Heisman Trophy winner Herschel Walker (Georgia), Ernest Anderson (Oklahoma State), Mike Rozier (Nebraska) and Sam DeJarnette (Southern Mississippi) will be back for another collegiate fling in 1983. . . . While Ken Moffett, successor to Marvin Miller as executive director of the Major League Players Association, hopes his tenure will be "peaceful" and not marred by bickering with the owners, baseball management seems to be gearing up for a fight over what they consider a need to remap the salary arbitration procedure. Salary arbitration, most owners agree, has been a bigger drain financially than free agency.

ONE FOR THE BOOK: If Yankees catcher Rick Cerone

signed a four-year contract calling for \$600,000 a season after batting .227 with five home runs and 28 runs batted in, what kind of a salary will he command after a good year? . . . The Denver Nuggets have players with names to challenge any self-respecting play-by-play announcer, notes the Boston Globe's Dan Shaughnessy, citing the likes of Kiki Vandeweghe, Glen Gondrezick, Dave Robisch and trainer/traveling secretary Bob Travaglini. The Globe also offered an all-name team in college basketball. First-team choices were Paris Dran, Florida A&M; Goliath Yeggins, West Texas State; Fitzgerald Bobo, Duquesne; Baskerville Holmes, Memphis State; and Napoleon Lightning, St. Francis, Pa. Relegated to reserve roles were Sir John Collins, Seton Hall; Reginald Pink, Southern Methodist; Uwe Blab, Indiana; and Truck Butts, LaSalle. . . . Four-time Cy Young Award winner Steve Carlton, 23-11 in 1982, has averaged 18.7 victories in 11 seasons with the Phillies. . . . The undisputed travel champion of NBA active players is Tom Owens, the 6-10 center from South Carolina who in 11 professional seasons has played for Memphis, Carolina, St. Louis, Memphis (again), Kentucky, Indiana and San Antonio (all in 1975-76), Houston, Portland, Indiana (again) and now Detroit, where he is reported to be renting. . . . Twins scout Ellis Cleary insists he once scouted a pitcher who was so ineffective that when he came into a game the groundcrew dragged the warning track.

AROUND THE HORN: Expos outfielder Tim Raines traces the cocaine habit that cost him \$40,000 back to when he reached the major leagues and starting making big bucks, but Montreal club President John McHale thinks otherwise. "If he says it, he believes it, but that might not be the way it happened," said McHale. The Expos' investigation indicates the problem developed way back in Raines' career. Regardless, teammate Andre Dawson says it won't happen again. "I'll try to settle him down, get him in the right frame of mind. There's no telling what's in his head. This year isn't going to be easy for Tim." . . . Jack Nicklaus, one of professional golf's staunchest traditionalists, says he may play a "safety yellow" ball next season, partly for commercial reasons and partly because of nearsightedness. . . . One wonders how the Indians, who for three seasons have hit fewer home runs than any team in the American League, could trade outfielder Von Hayes, a fine prospect who clouted 14 homers and drove in 82 runs last season. . . . The Green Bay Packers' James Lofton modestly rates himself the best receiver in the NFL, followed by teammate John Jefferson. . . . Veteran infielder Larry Bowa, after his first season with the Cubs, is uncertain about the toll day games take on a team inhabiting unlighted Wrigley Field. "You couldn't really tell this year because we had a cool summer in Chicago," said Bowa.

WHEEL OF FORTUNE: When Joe Altobelli replaced Earl Weaver as manager of the Orioles, he inherited a team that promises to continue to challenge for the American League East title. Altobelli considers it a rare opportunity and acknowledges considerable pressure. "No doubt I'm going to think about it," said Altobelli. "But then I turn around and think, 'Somebody had to get the job. Why not me?' There are worse situations." Altobelli spent the last two years as a Yankees' coach. "After two years in New York, I think I'm ready for anything," he said. . . . The Los Angeles Lakers' James Worthy signed a \$1 million contract with New Balance Athletic Shoe that runs through 1990, giving him what may be the longest such sports agreement ever. M. L. Carr of the Boston Celtics finds it amusing. Several years ago Carr signed his first endorsement, a contract with Chicago Mattress Co. His compensation was a king-sized mattress. . . . A's President Roy Eisenhardt compares the current organizational structure of baseball to "a type of confederation like Switzerland." He says baseball requires a commissioner with the ability to "bring a big coalition together like Lyndon Johnson, Harry Truman or Dwight Eisenhower could have." . . . Who could challenge Dallas Cowboys General Manager Tex Schramm when he says his five best No. 1 draft picks were Tony Dorsett (1977), Randy White (1975), Too Tall Jones (1974), Lee Roy Jordan (1963) and Billy Joe DuPree (1973)? . . . Insiders say an attendance clause is the chief stumbling block in Billy Martin's negotiations to return as Yankees manager.

FOOTNOTES: Intimidation was a part of Gene Mauch's game plan when he was piloting the Phillies, Lou Brock recalls. "If he thought he could hurt you, he'd ride hell out of you, intimidate you," said the career base-stealing champion. "I lived in the dirt. He knocked Pete Rose and myself down all the time. And then, I guess he looked in the papers, saw what we were hitting against the Phillies and called it off." . . . Despite his record-shattering December performances, quarterback Dan Fouts of the San Diego Chargers still feels the effects of the frostbite suffered during last year's AFC championship game in the bitter cold of Cincinnati. Dr. Ralph Goldman, chief scientist with the Army's environmental service division, suggests one method NFL players might use to overcome January cold. "You have to think warm, basically," said Dr. Goldman. "There have been studies of yoga in India. They increase their finger temperature by 20 to 25 degrees."



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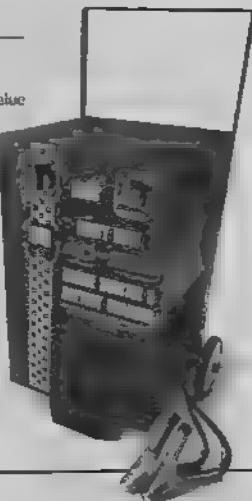


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Distant-Signal Ruling Has Wide Impact

BOSTON—For the 75 percent of Americans who do not have cable television in their homes, what follows may seem irrelevant. But it soon will have impact for that majority, too, because what happens to sports on cable now also affects conventional TV.

The latest development, with special relationship to sports, is complicated even for cable, the Rubik's Cube of television.

The problem focuses on a federal agency with the title of Copyright Royalty Tribunal. The issue is a fight pitting the broadcasters, movies and sports interests against cable TV, especially superstations that feed programming to cable systems.

The end result may be as simple as the issues are complex. Namely, all but two of the imported distant signals featuring sports now seen on local cable systems could be dropped any day now.

Fans who already are reduced to two out-of-town cable sports channels may find this explanation useful, however complicated, because cable systems are notorious for providing limited information to subscribers.

At the heart of the matter, of course, is money. Cable systems within range of the top 50 markets that began operating after 1972 must by March 16 drop all but two of their imported distant signals. Either that or pay 3.75 percent of their gross revenue for each additional station they choose to import.

That fee would be more than four times more expensive than the .88 of revenue now charged for a distant signal. This difference almost automatically will cause local systems to cancel the additional channels.

The Copyright Tribunal had made the ruling effective January 1, but Congress pushed the effective date back 75 days, allowing more lobbying time for cable interests in their attempt to retain the status quo.

The mid-March deadline would seem to avoid an immediate crisis and allow time for most of the hockey and basketball already programmed.

But things are seldom as they seem in cable. Too often one rule overlaps and interferes with another.

A case in point is the regulation that requires a cable system to pay for six months of the cost of importing a distant signal even if it carries that station only one day.

So if a cable system chose to stay with an imported signal at the existing rate of .88 percent of its revenue through March 15, in reality that rate would be 2.14 percent, based on 75 days use and the daily fee imposed for six months.

A cable system's first axiom is to make as much money as possible. Hence, many systems will be dropping all but two distant signals long before the March 16 deadline.

If a system in the East already is importing WOR-TV and its offerings of the Nets, Islanders, Rangers and Knicks, and also is bringing in WTBS-TV and the Atlanta Hawks as well as col-



The new distant-signal ruling is nothing but bad news for Ted Turner's WTBS-TV.

lege basketball on other channels, would many sports fans cancel their cable hookup out of principle? Very doubtful.

In that belief, cable systems will cancel all but two distant signals and wait to measure any loss in subscribers against the cost of paying the higher fee.

Ted Turner's WTBS-TV has the most at stake in all this because Turner's empire is based on increasing reception of his Atlanta station. Turner figures that national advertising revenues for his station will keep pace with accelerating wiring of the nation.

WTBS-TV had 23 million subscribers as of November 29, but now comes a rule that would discourage new cable systems from accepting Turner's signal and encourage those already carrying it to scrub it.

But the biggest loss of audience may be facing the Cubs on WGN-TV, a Chicago superstation carried in 9.5 million homes at last count. There is not likely to be a groundswell of protest against being pulled off TV in major metropolitan areas east of the Windy City.

There could be beneficiaries of the cutback in distant signals. ESPN and USA Cable, each already being seen in about 20 million households, may be able to offer at a small price sports that cable subscribers have been getting free on superstations.

These two channels are not delivered as distant signals, hence they do not come under the Copyright Tribunal's ruling.

Also free from the new distant signal rule because they are picked up by microwave are such stations as Philadelphia's WTAF, which carries the Phillies and Flyers, and WPHL, whose main sports product is the 76ers. And WSBK-TV in Boston is commonly picked up with its offering of the Bruins and Red Sox.

Because microwave expense to cable systems is based on how far the signal must travel, this form of importation is most common in the major cities in the East.

By raising the rates so sharply for importation of distant signals, the Copyright Tribunal ruling probably will mean less income from cable systems to be distributed among the teams, program syndicators and local stations whose signals are being picked up.

Are the parties that have pushed for higher fees thus shooting themselves in the foot?

No, because they will be reestablishing their property rights.

Even the most avid fan watching so much sports action on cable must have wondered at times how he got it all so cheaply.

Garvey Auction Was Just a Charade

SAN FRANCISCO—At first there was a special sadness in the divorce of Steve Garvey and the Los Angeles Dodgers, as there was in the departure of Willie Mays from the Giants or Pete Rose from the Reds.

Man and team had become one and the same, nearly interchangeable. It was as if each had been destined for the particular uniform.

But eventually the dollar becomes stronger than destiny. The game is played as a business. If loyalty is a virtue, you'd never know it through professional sport. Years of service become just so many marks in a record book. The athlete waves farewell and moves on.

Steve Garvey moved to the San Diego Padres. He did it to extend his streak of consecutive games in the National League. He also did it for a reported \$9 million, counting incentives. Wealth was gained. An image was lost.

Unlike Caesar's wife, Garvey was never above reproach. Imperfections were noticeable in his baseball. Personal goals were not always subordinated for the good of the team.

Occasionally, he even seemed the archtypical southern California phony, the ultimate auto salesman—smiling, courteous, kind to animals and even sportswriters.

And yet in this age of irreverence, this era of egoism, Garvey also was the closest thing to a true sporting hero, an All-American boy. Along with his skill, Garvey had shown dignity and a clean toughness. He knew how to play the game, off the field as

well as on.

All he wanted, we believed, was to wear Dodger blue until they had to strip away the uniform. In the past weeks, however, what has been stripped away was a bit of magic.

To the mark of 1,107 consecutive games Garvey played for Los Angeles, add one more—the game he played with the emotions and budgets of team executives who felt obliged to woo him.

Contract discussions were to be on such a high level. Well-mannered and impeccably attired, Garvey proclaimed interest in items other than money. It would only have been fitting for the contract to be signed on Mount Olympus.

Yet in the end Garvey was no different from anyone else, an athletic mercenary. His choice, the Padres, was made not for reasons esoteric but financial. He sold himself to the highest bidder.

Remember those press conferences in various cities, the ones in which Garvey and his Svengali of an agent, Jerry Kapstein, paraded about, extolling the virtues of the club at hand? They were little but charades, attempts at gaining more publicity and, therefore, more money.

It was the Steve and Jerry Show, your basic sidewalk song-and-dance routine, a couple of guys who, like snake oil salesmen, couldn't wait to hightail it to the next county. Or in this instance, the next franchise.

And the clubs fell for it. Red carpets were rolled forward. Step right up. Here he is. Mr. Kapstein and his amazing windup toy. Let them entertain you. Don't you just love San Francisco, Mr. Garvey? Or is it Chicago? Or New York? Or Houston?

It turns out he loves San Diego, or at least San Diego's cash, which the skeptics had suspected from the very beginning. Yes, it's right down the coast from Los Angeles, where Steve was loyal, brave and kind for so many years. And Steve wants

to be near his family. And Steve wants to be rich.

Well, this is a capitalistic country, and if Robert Redford can get \$4 million per movie, then Steve Garvey is entitled to his fair share. But was he—or more properly, Kapstein—entitled to make us fall for the old shell game?

The implication was that Garvey would receive an offer from the clubs in which he was interested, then consider all factors. Was the team a pennant contender? Did the city fit his style? Was Jupiter aligned with Mars?

Having been summarily dismissed by the Dodgers, who wouldn't go a cent above \$1 million a year, Garvey received outpourings of sympathy. What was baseball coming to, when a man of dedication was no longer appreciated?

What it was coming to was an auction. What am I bid for this young man of dignity and political aspirations, this sporting hero? Five million? Do I hear six? Will anyone go six and a half?

It was a seller's market. Kapstein told the Padres what the Giants offered. Then he told the Yankees what the Cubs had offered. Then he told everyone what the Yankees had offered, even though there wasn't a chance in creation the Yankees would sign Steve Garvey.

Kapstein represents numerous players, among them Don Baylor, whom Yankees Owner George Steinbrenner wanted. Steinbrenner and Kapstein are friends. It has been written that Kapstein delivered Baylor to the Yanks in return for Steinbrenner drafting Garvey, thereby driving up Steve's price.

Some might call it collusion, others shrewd business. If Al Davis can fool the entire city of Los Angeles, there's probably nothing wrong with Jerry Kapstein fooling a few baseball executives.

But Steve Garvey's not supposed to fool anyone. And he may have fooled us all.

ART SPANDER



ASK THE REFEREE



By HAL LEBOVITZ

Q. The Spurs are leading the Lakers by three points with three seconds left. L.A.'s Norm Nixon is fouled. He goes to the line for two free throws, and sinks the first shot. But, instead of shooting the second, he fakes it, causing a double lane violation (everybody jumped into the lane.) The referees ruled a jump ball at the free throw circle. Abdul-Jabbar tapped the ball to Nixon, who sank a basket, tying the score and sending the game into overtime. The Lakers won in double OT. How should the faked free throw have been ruled? Am I right that the faked shot is a turnover, giving the Spurs the ball and the victory? . . . Tom McEnaney, Lynn, Mass.

A. No, but the officials were wrong, too. If the ball had left Nixon's hands—say, he caught his own short flip—and the Spurs jumped into the lane too soon, it would have been a double violation and a jump ball. But since the ball never left Nixon's hands the referee should blow his whistle and order the shot repeated. The NBA case book covers this play. However, it hadn't occurred exactly this way before so the officials saw it as a double lane violation and incorrectly called for the jump ball.

The Spurs protested and the NBA upheld their protest. The game will be continued April 13 with three seconds remaining, the Spurs leading by two points and Nixon at the line to take his final free throw. This time he'll probably try to hit the rim and hope one of his teammates gets the rebound and sinks a basket. That's legal.

Q. A cornerback makes an over-the-shoulder interception at the 3-yard line. His momentum carries him five yards deep into the end zone. He turns around to run the ball out. He takes two steps but is tackled in the end zone. What's the call? . . . Robert Goodfriend, Houston.

A. The defensive team gets the ball at the 3-yard line, first-and-10. On any interception inside the 5 in which the player's momentum takes him into the end zone and he doesn't get out, the ball goes over to his team at the spot of the interception.

Q. Dallas is advancing the ball against Washington. Danny White completes a 15-yard pass on third-and-10 to Tony Hill in the center of the field. No timeout is called. Is the clock stopped to move the chains? . . . Thomas Henderson, Terre Haute, Ind.

A. The clock is never stopped in the NFL to move the first-down markers unless the stickholders get wrapped in their chains or some other catastrophe occurs. The NFL crews are so well-organized and slick that they're usually at the new spot long before the players are ready for the snap.

Q. In college football, The Citadel has the ball on its own 32-yard line but is assessed a 10-yard penalty for holding. The referee inadvertently marks off the penalty incorrectly, placing the ball on the 23, nine yards behind the line of scrimmage, instead of 10. From the statistician's point of view, what should be done? Should he mark it as a 10-yard penalty or nine yards? . . . Monte Dutton, Greenville, S.C.

A. Statistically, it's listed as a nine-yard penalty and for clarification an asterisk is added to denote the improper yardage. Asterisks aren't like stars on a player's helmet. An official doesn't appreciate getting them.

Q. When a sidewinder kicks off, in most cases, his planted foot is ahead of the ball. Consequently he is offside. Right? . . . Bob Eastman, Salem, Ore.

A. Wrong. The rules permit him to be ahead of the ball. In other words, the kicker is an exception.

Q. How much are the officials in the National Football League paid? . . . Vernon E. Nelson, Zabel, N.D.

A. The NFL office advises that first-year officials receive \$425 a game. Raises are given every two years until the maximum of \$1,200 per game is reached—that is, if you're good. If you're not good enough to get raises, you're not good enough to work.

Please direct your questions to "Ask the Referee," c/o Hal Lebovitz, The Plain Dealer, 1801 Superior Ave., Cleveland, O. 44114. A self-addressed stamped envelope must be included; otherwise, your letter will not be answered.

Some NFL Unforgettables In a Forgettable Season

TOM
BARNIDGE

Managing Editor

ST. LOUIS—By virtue of an NFL players' strike that arrived unwanted and stayed too long, the 1982 professional football season is apt to be remembered not for what it gave but for what it took.

By virtue of a curious playoff scheme, expanded to include everyone but the downstairs maid, the National Football League champ for 1982 will forever carry an asterisk alongside its name.

We'll remember that the Raiders went south to Los Angeles and the Rams went south to the cellar. Frank Kush brought discipline to the Baltimore Colts, but he didn't seem to bring much else.

Oh yeah, Jack Patera was fired while not coaching and Jim Hanifan was rewarded while not doing the same thing. The Patriots added a snowplow to their roster. The league was linked to cocaine.

A strange and sullied season it's been, forgettable on so many counts. Yet, 1982 deserves more than a home in the hamper alongside the soiled linen and towels. If nothing else, it allowed us one final glimpse at some of the brightest stars in the game.

Think ahead five years when selectors gather to ponder candidates for the Pro Football Hall of Fame and they read the star-studded list of this year's graduates. It's a class of Ph.D.s.

The Kansas City Chiefs say goodbye to Jack Rudnay, the literal and figurative center of the offensive line who made four Pro Bowl trips in 13 NFL seasons.

The Minnesota Vikings lose Ahmad Rashad, who was nothing less than a piece of poetry at his wide receiver spot.

The Raiders bid farewell to Art Shell and Gene Upshaw, the most fearsome 1-2 punch ever to man an offensive line that has been rich in tradition. Fourteen Pro Bowl berths, between them, is the legacy left behind.

Quarterback Craig Morton departs in Denver, after 18 years spent avoiding the blitz. The heart and soul of the Broncos' 1977 season, he leaves behind the memory of their only Super Bowl trip.

And nowhere do the bittersweet pangs strike deeper than in St. Louis, where the Cardinals part company with defense and offense: cornerback Roger Wehrli and wide receiver Mel Gray.

Gray was the first ground-to-air missile in the embryonic stages of Air Coryell-St. Louis. Wehrli was simply the consummate professional for 14 years, career beginning to end.

The mind drifts back to 1973, when St. Louis defeated Dallas

and Roger Staubach was stung for three interceptions. All three were by Wehrli. Admirably, if begrudgingly, Staubach would say, "Wehrli's become one of my best receivers."

Then, there is the image from 1980, when in the waning seconds of a game nearly won, Wehrli surrendered a touchdown pass to the Cowboys' Tony Hill. For perhaps the only time in his career, he momentarily bared his emotions.

"Personally," he said of a 27-24 loss, "I felt responsible for what happened."

In many ways, those two scenes best capture Wehrli's career. A gifted athlete respected by peers. An honest man who admitted frailties. And those qualities are fairly indicative of the senior class of '82.

Years from now, when fans reflect on the NFL season that was '82, the portrait will be a curious montage of good, bad and ugly recollections. All that was cold and selfish and distasteful reared its head during the year. Much that was silly, shortsighted and comical paid a visit, too.

It may never be remembered for the rookies that arrived. Nor for the champion that it crowned.

But you can rest assured that in the Pro Football Hall of Fame 1982 will be duly noted. It ushered out a small galaxy of glittering stars.



Mel Gray



Roger Wehrli



Jack Rudnay



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Scouting Report

The Last Roundup

Bear Bryant Bows Out in Style

By DOUG GROW

MEMPHIS—His voice, as usual, felt off until it was a guttural mumble. But somewhere in there among all those sounds that were supposed to be words, Paul (Bear) Bryant muttered how it had been nice to win "the last roundup."

As it turned out, the last roundup was more a gaudy testimonial to the Alabama football coach/legend than it was a football game. Posters, paintings, Coke bottles, bumper stickers, cocktail glasses all were covered with messages about the greatness of the Bear. And all were sold for a heady profit in the days leading up to the December 29 Liberty Bowl game in Memphis.

The football game between Bear's Alabama Crimson Tide and a team from the University of Illinois was clearly a secondary show in Memphis.

The Bear was the thing. Never had the Liberty Bowl been covered by so many members of the media. Never had scalpers been able to extract such glorious sums for Liberty Bowl tickets. Never had so many people come to watch a Liberty Bowl game.

Bear Bryant was headed for the last roundup. That his team won his last game, 21-15, was of little football importance, but it was a nice touch for historians. Bear understood that.

"We won in spite of me," Bear said. "I actually hardly knew what we were doing. I don't recall making an important decision all night."

In fact, Bear had seemed a lonely figure on the 'Bama sideline in the 425th game and 323rd victory of his 38-year coaching career. He'd seemed something of a lonely figure throughout the celebration that preceded his last game be-

'... whether they liked it or not, whether I liked it or not, people will remember this game.'

cause Bear is a man who above all likes being with his football players. There was precious little time to be with his team, what with all the honoring to be done.

"As I told 'em (the players) before the game," Bryant said, "whether they liked it or not, whether I liked it or not, people will remember this game."

The people probably will forget that this 69-year-old legend had to travel a long way to become the beloved institution honored in Memphis. From mean young coach to beloved old man, that's how far the Bear traveled.

Bryant admitted that in his days at Texas A&M, victory was achieved at all costs, including cheating. Between cheating at A&M and eulogizing in Memphis, there also was an ugly scandal involving Bryant and former Georgia Coach Wally Butts, a scandal that led to the Saturday Evening Post losing a huge libel suit.

And along the way to testimonials at the Liberty Bowl was the fact that Bryant did not cover himself with glory when he seemingly accepted institutionalized racism in the South by not pushing to recruit black athletes until 1970.

All of this is simply to point out that above all, the legend is mortal, which again is something Bear understood, even if others didn't.

"What's it like to have your son recruited by the Bear?" said Patricia Trodd, mother of Alabama reserve kicker Paul Trodd. "We walked into his office expecting to meet Moses

Bear Trap

| SCORE BY PERIODS | | | Alabama | Illinois |
|------------------|---|---------|--------------------|----------|
| Alabama | 7 | 0 | 7 | 7-21 |
| Illinois | 0 | 6 | 0 | 9-15 |
| | | | | |
| SCORING | | | Punts | 5-42 |
| Alabama | Moore 4 run (Kim kick). | | Fumbles-Lost | 3-33 |
| Illinois | Curtis 1 run (kick failed). | | Pena ties-Yards | 1-1 |
| Alabama | Bendross 8 run (Kim kick). | | Time of possession | 3-14 |
| Illinois | Williams 2 pass from Eason (pass failed). | | Attendance | 27-42 |
| Alabama | Turner 1 run (Kim kick). | | | 32-18 |
| Illinois | Field goal. Bass 23. | | | |
| TEAM STATISTICS | | | | |
| Alabama | First downs | 19 | Illinois | 21 |
| Rushes-Yards | 57-217 | 25-21 | | |
| Passing yards | 130 | 423 | | |
| Return yards | 83 | 32 | | |
| Passes | 7-13-2 | 35-58-7 | | |

| INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Rushing | Alabama, Moore 13-65, Fagan 6-38, Turner 11-36, Carter 5-25, Lewis 12-20, Illinois, Curtis 7-13, Ryles 4-10, Eason 10-minus 10, Rooks 2-3, Beverly 1-6, Brookins 1-minus 1 | | | |
| Passing | Alabama, Lewis 7 13-2 130, Illinois, Eason 35-55-4-423, Jenner 0-3-3-0. | | | |
| Receiving | Alabama, Bendross 3-51, Jones 2-60, Moore 1-13, D. White 1-6, Illinois, Martin 8-127, Williams 7-84, Brewster 6-55, Beverly 4-40, Curtis 2-35, DeOliver 2-23, Murphy 2-20, Rooks, 2-18, K. Wilson 1-14, Benson 1-7. | | | |



After his final game, Bear Bryant gets a victory ride.

and instead we met God."

The mortal Bear knows better.

"It would take me two weeks to write down all the things I done wrong," the Bear said during a break between the honoring ceremonies in Memphis. "If I were to have it to do over, I'd start by trying to be a better Christian. All the mistakes there are, I've made 'em."

But he's also survived 'em and he could go on surviving 'em and go on winning football games, according to Eddie Robinson, the Grambling coach who, health willing, will surpass Bryant as the winningest coach in college football history.

"The man could come back next year and whip 'em," said Robinson, who had come to Memphis to join in honoring the Bear. "It takes a little meanness to stay on top. He's got that. He's the greatest organizer in football, and he runs a tight ship. He could come back next year and whip 'em."

But Robinson's assessment was not shared by the Bear, which is why there was all of this last-roundup business in Memphis.

"There was a time when we'd hardly ever lose to a team we were supposed to beat," the Bear said. "Until last year, I can remember it happening only two or three times."

"But lately, it seems like we've been losing to a bunch of

teams we ought to beat. Georgia Tech last year and Southern Mississippi this year. We got more than 500 yards on Auburn this year and still couldn't win. When you lose to teams you are supposed to beat, that's the coach's fault. I found I couldn't rally my players anymore. When that happens, it's time to quit."

He did, amid hoopla and cheap, gaudy paintings sold for big prices and amid glowing speeches from people who didn't know him and amid media hype and hustle.

In the midst of all of this, the Bear seemed like a tired old man, far older than his years. Thick tongue, a painfully slow walk. A man too tired to break up the wishbone and install the pro-set passing offense that Ray Perkins will bring to 'Bama. (I don't want to teach holding," scoffed the Bear.)

Sad to say, a half-dozen assistant coaches lost their jobs when the Bear quit his. There is speculation that Bear will stay on as Alabama athletic director only until all those men have found work.

Bryant may be lonely, too, after being carried off the field following his final football victory.

"Thank you for coming," the Bear muttered to a room filled with writers. "Ever down my way, stop by and break bread cuz I'll have a lot of time."

Paterno's Good Guys Wear White

By JOE GERGEN

NEW ORLEANS—For years, Joe Paterno's taste in football was as bland as his sense of fashion. The plain vanilla uniforms worn by his Penn State teams duly reflected the man's no-frills approach. If the Nittany Lions didn't invent the goal-line offense, then at least they were among the first to utilize it at midfield.

Well, the uniforms still are white on white and so elementary that the large, blue numbers on the jerseys appear an intrusion. The shoes remain basic black, a throwback to the '50s when Paterno followed his college coach, Rip Engle, to State College as a graduate assistant. But no matter how simple the wrapping, the brilliance of the package that was Penn State football in 1982 cannot be denied.

The Lions proved they not only were the best team in the land but among the most entertaining in a New Year's night performance of astonishing variety and resourcefulness. In a Sugar Bowl showdown matching the teams ranked No. 1 (Georgia) and No. 2 (Penn State) in wire-service polls, Penn State defeated previously unbeaten Georgia, 27-23, and secured the Eastern school's first official national championship. Paterno still thinks his undefeated teams of 1968, 1969 and 1973 deserved the honor, but neither poll happened to agree.

The Nittany Lions had been ranked No. 1 (Georgia was No. 3) by THE SPORTING NEWS going into the game in the Louisiana Superdome. Although the score was close and Paterno had to sweat out the final minutes, Penn State displayed a spectacular offense as well as its traditionally strong defense and dominated play from the outset. There simply was no restraining Todd Blackledge who, in his high-top shoes (he joked that he wore basketball sneakers to get better traction on the turf, but had to paint them black to meet Paterno's dress code), evoked an earlier era. Blackledge simply confirmed his arrival as an ideal quarterback for the pass-happy '80s.

What success Penn State had earned in Paterno's first 16 years as head coach in Happy Valley (his record is 162-34-1) invariably was the result of a grudging defense and a punishing ground game. And, certainly, there were elements of both in the Lions' victory, their 11th in 12 games this season. Just as he had done a year earlier in the Fiesta Bowl against Southern California and Marcus Allen, Curt Warner (117 yards) outgained a Heisman Trophy winner. The defense aided Warner's cause by limiting the Bulldogs' Herschel Walker to 103 yards on 28 carries, with the longest gain a mere 12 yards.

But this was a Penn State team that thrived on the pass because of an excess of skilled athletes and the late development of a rebuilt offensive line. The Lions had to throw early in the season to win and, to Paterno's credit, he made the adjust-

| | | Numero Uno | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------|---------|-----------------------|--|
| | | SCORE BY PERIODS | | Penn St. Georgia | |
| Penn State | 7 | 13 | 0 | 7-27 | 226 166 |
| Georgia | 3 | 7 | 7 | 6-23 | 111 5-47 |
| SCORING | | | | Passing yards | 124 12 |
| Penn State | Warner 2 run (Gancitano kick). | | | Sacks by-Yards | 13-23-0 12-28-2 |
| Georgia | Field goal Butler 27. | | | Return yards | 7-42-5 3-0 |
| Penn State | Field goal Gancitano 38. | | | Passes | 7-42-5 3-0 |
| Penn State | Warner 9 run (Gancitano kick) | | | Punts | 7-42-5 3-0 |
| Penn State | Field goal Gancitano 45. | | | Fumbles-Lost | 7-42-5 3-0 |
| Georgia | Archie 20 pass from Lastinger (Butler kick). | | | Penalties-Yards | 7-42-5 3-0 |
| Georgia | Walker 1 run (Butler kick). | | | Time of possession | 30:38 29:22 |
| Penn State | Garrity 48 pass from Blackledge (Gancitano kick). | | | Attendance | 78,124 |
| Georgia | Kay 9 pass from Lastinger (run failed). | | | | |
| TEAM STATISTICS | | | | INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS | |
| Penn St. | First downs | 19 | Georgia | RUSHING | Penn State, Warner 18-117, Williams 13-55, Blackledge 1-2, Coles 2-3, Nichols 5-15, Georgia, Lastinger 8-21, McCarthy 9-36, Walker 28-103. |
| Georgia | Rush-Yards | 44-139 | 46-160 | PASSING | Penn State, Blackledge 13-23-0 228, Georgia—Lastinger 12-27-2-166, C. Jones 0-1-0-0 |
| | | | | RECEIVING | Penn State, Warner 2-23, McCloskey 3-53, Garrity 4-116, Jackson 2-35, Williams 2-1, Georgia, Kay 5-61, Archie 2-23, Harris 4-67, Walker 1-15 |

ment. Blackledge was a very confident quarterback before the Sugar Bowl and his performance indicated that.

Blackledge struck early against Georgia with two deep passes to set up Warner's two-yard touchdown run, with the game just 2:51 old. His 36-yard pass to senior split end Gregg Garrity positioned the Lions for Warner's second touchdown, a nine-yard cutback off the right side in the second quarter.

Still, Georgia would not concede. The key to the comeback, as he had been all night, was John Lastinger, a young man whose high school and college teams had never lost a game he started at quarterback. At best, Lastinger was considered an erratic passer, rated next-to-last in efficiency in the Southeastern Conference. But all season he had displayed an ability to make critical third-down passes and other clutch plays.

Perhaps mindful of his own limited ability as a quarterback when he played under Engle at Brown University, Paterno praised Lastinger before the game. "I sort of have a soft spot in my heart for him," Paterno said, "because I think he's a winner. If they need a play, he'll make it for them."

With Walker safely contained by Penn State's quick linebackers and secondary and unable to live up to the \$10 T-shirt which pictured him in a Superman outfit blasting through the Superdome roof with his Heisman in one hand and the No. 1 ranking in the other, Lastinger did his best. Paterno now felt that soft spot turn to heartburn as Lastinger took the opportunity of Kevin Baugh's fumble on a punt return—the only Penn State turnover of the game—near midfield to complete three passes, including a seven-yard strike to tight end Clarence Kay for his second touchdown toss of the game.

There was 3:54 remaining when the Bulldogs lined up for a

two-point conversion attempt. Georgia Coach Vince Dooley didn't want to play for any tie. Walker took the pitch from Lastinger and attempted to bulwark over the right side. He gained perhaps a yard. Now Georgia needed a touchdown to win. Penn State needed only to control the ball.

Ali Paterno's instincts urged him to keep the ball on the ground. Blackledge had other ideas. Penn State managed one first down routinely enough but suddenly faced a third-and-three situation on its own 33-yard line. Gambling on holding the Lions and forcing a punt, Georgia called its second timeout. Blackledge went to the sidelines for a conference with his coach. He knew he could beat the Georgia secondary if the Bulldogs lined up in the same defense "Let's go for it," the quarterback pleaded.

The coach gave him his head. "I just told him," Paterno recalled, "Make sure you throw it far enough." Although Georgia hadn't closed within three feet of an interception all night, the Bulldogs led the nation in that category and they were not to be dismissed. No problem. Blackledge audibled at the line, stepped back and rifled a five-yard out pattern to Garrity for the first down. For all purposes, the game and Paterno's long quest for the national title was over.

Blackledge, a junior in eligibility who will graduate with his class in May and may forsake the campus for the National Football League ("He's coming back next year, and he'll win the Heisman," protested Paterno), had shrugged off five sacks by a hard-hitting defense and what he termed a temporary loss of poise in the third quarter to finish with a flourish. He completed 13 of 23 passes for 228 yards and walked off with the game's most valuable player award. "Praise the Lord," he said, "it's the greatest season I've ever had."

Yes, praise the Lord and pass the football, the new style popularized by Penn State. The Lions finally were No. 1. That conflicted slightly with the testimony of a bedsheet banner draped from the upper deck which proclaimed "Penn State's 4th National Championship." And Paterno said he remains as proud of those three undefeated teams as he is of the 1982 Nittany Lions. Indeed, on his left hand he wore the championship ring he personally awarded to the 1973 team after it finished 12-0 and somehow was ranked fifth in both wire-service polls.

That ring will be moved to his right hand, he indicated, to be replaced on the left hand by the honest-to-goodness article with the Good Housekeeping seal of approval. "I've been in the situation where we've won all our games," Paterno said, "and I've been satisfied with that. I just feel great for the squad. They've worked so hard. They're the first (Penn State) team anyone has recognized legitimately as No. 1... I think it's the best team I've ever had."

This Time, No Third Degree for Paterno

NEW ORLEANS—Vince Dooley sat on a folding chair, television lights glaring in his face. The face had the wan, drawn expression of a prisoner willing to plea-bargain.

On the other side of a flimsy green curtain divider, Joe Paterno stood in a state of animation, describing the course of events of an evening on which he had come to presume that his Penn State football team had ascended to the national championship. He held an acute interest in this, since he coaches the team, and has since 1966, winning 82 percent of the time. The spiritual leader of the Nittany Lions needed only to hear from the electoral collegiate polls to have it made official.

All of this was taking place on the lower level of the world's largest mushroom, rising up from the soggy basin of downtown New Orleans under the name of the Superdome. Penn State had taken down Georgia in the Sugar Bowl with a result that was a bookmaker's dream. The score was 27-23. The betting line had been established at Penn State minus four, and so only the house collected.

All week long there had been the endless press conferences, the endless repetition, the endless proclamations that come with the Super Bowl-type match of the Nos. 1 and 2 college football teams of the season. New Orleans jauntily harped on the theme that the Sugar Bowl game would decide the national championship.

"My reasoning is that when the No. 2 team plays the No. 1 team and the No. 2 team wins, that No. 2 team becomes No. 1," Paterno said, which would get him a passing grade in a class of logic.

Dooley agreed that Penn State had won. "They deserve it," he said, being the Southern gentleman to the end.

Georgia had lost to Pitt on a last-ditch, fourth-down pass a year ago on this same carpet. Two years ago, Georgia had beaten Notre Dame here and nailed down No. 1. Otherwise,

FURMAN
BISHER



New Year's Days in New Orleans have been wasted holidays for Dooley. The same might be said for Paterno.

Between them, Paterno and Dooley held only one victory going into the 49th Sugar Bowl. Now Dooley is 1-4, Paterno 1-3. As a matter of fact, what set up the occasion as the evening of the Nittany Lions was the first 27 minutes, during which they scored more points than Paterno's teams had scored in three other Sugar Bowls.

Todd Blackledge, Paterno's quarterback, came out gunning and in less than three minutes had Penn State in the end zone. Seventy-four yards in an 80-yard drive came by his passes. With the game only half over, he already had 160 yards passing and Penn State had 20 points and a 10-point lead.

It was that wide a lead only because some of the Bulldogs' obscured characteristics had failed them in a time of need. Old-established practices had broken down. Penn State was shutting down Herschel Walker, the most widely recognized college football player in America, the only active criminology major with a Heisman Trophy in his den. It remained for John Lastinger, the much-maligned and oft-doubted junior quarterback, to take to passing, and his handiwork was not only a thing of beauty but came not a moment too soon.

Lastinger is so youngish of features that it appears he might still need a baby-sitter. At this moment he turned tough and employed the last 39 seconds of the first half to move the Bulldogs 66 yards into Penn State's end zone. The key was an antique that Dooley plucked out of his attic of keepsake plays, the flea-flicker that had helped him win his first major-major game from Alabama years ago. Lastinger passed to Kevin Harris, who lateraled to Walker, who completed a 26-yard gain that set up Lastinger's touchdown pass to Herman Archie.

There was to be, however, no golden climax, no more of the comebacks by which Georgia won seven games over the season. While their impassioned Dawg people implored and exhorted and filled their unhearing ears with affectionate chants, the young men from the hills of Athens were never able to catch Penn State. There were some revolting developments on the field, as a Bulldog would see it, that made it that way.

This was a game in which Walker was a non-integral factor. It was a game in which Curt Warner looked more like the Heisman Trophy winner than the winner. His rocket-fired start, his quick feet, his dashing and darting moves made him

as elusive as a raw oyster. Warner gained 117 yards in 18 carries, scored two touchdowns and made the most of the jagged holes his blockers hacked in the Georgia line. Most of Walker's 103 yards (in 28 carries) were without consequence and for each carry he paid a punishing price. He was not the explosive Herschel Walker that Georgians have come to expect.

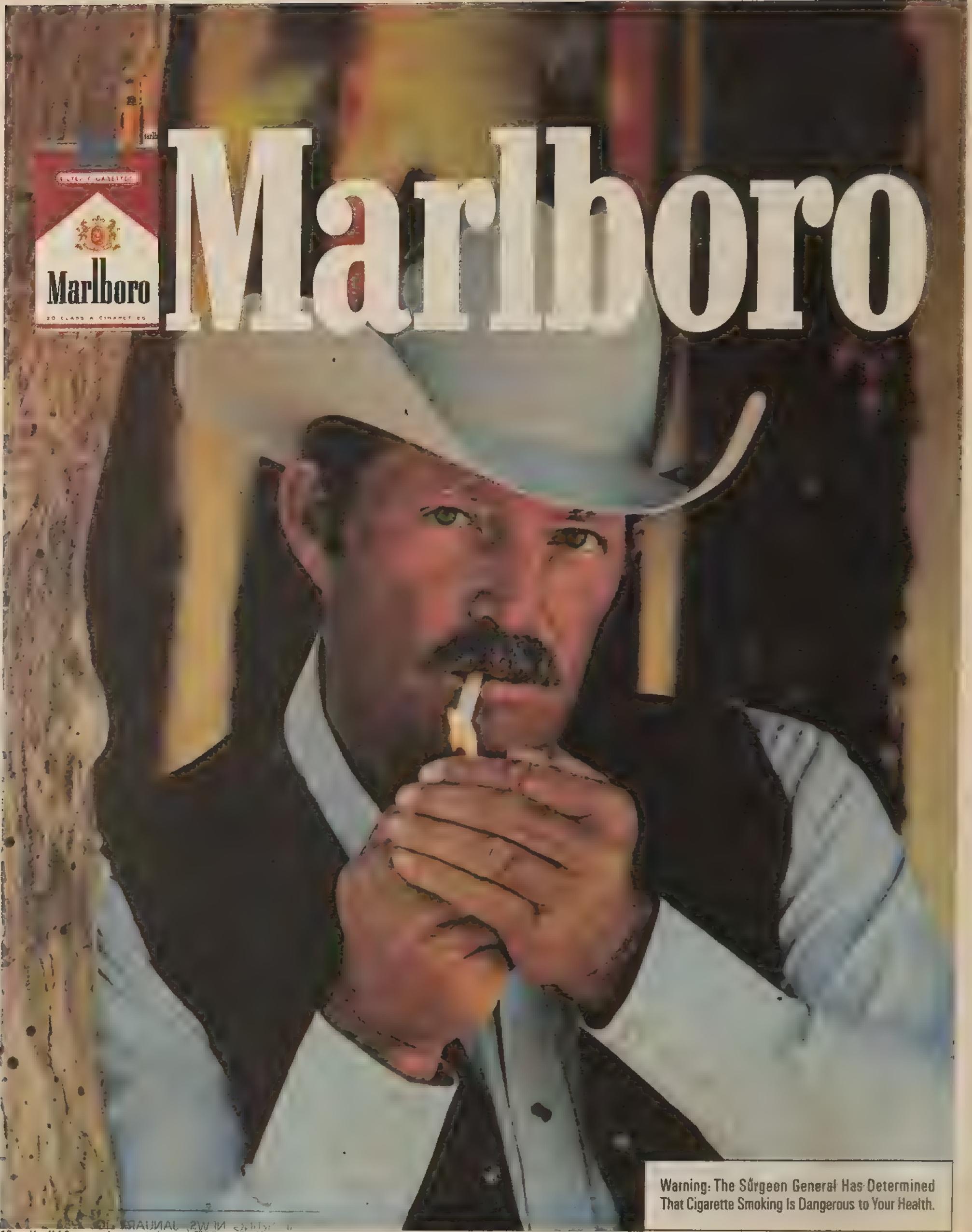
Georgia's defense has this reputation for bending but not breaking, for pass burglary and intimidation. This time it not only bent, it broke. The Dawgs never filched one of Blackledge's passes. He sent out his two Irish receivers, tight end Mike McCloskey and Gregg Garrity, enabling Kenny Jackson, the All-America, to be used as a decoy, and these two caught 169 yards worth of passes. McCloskey and Garrity had a major hand in 17 of Penn State's points.

There was a figure that figured in the post-mortem, under the heading of "Return Yardage." Georgia could never seem to get a grasp on how to handle Kevin Baugh, a skittering little bug who turned Jim Broadway's punts into personal exhibitions. Once he ran one back 24 yards, and another time 46, each followed by Penn State scores.

Georgia could look to one source of satisfaction. The game hadn't become a rout, but one was threatening. The score was 20-3 when Lastinger got the Bulldogs back in the game before the half. It was beginning to look like a carbon copy of the Sugar Bowl of 1977, when Georgia was a 27-3 loser to the national championship Pitt team of Tony Dorsett. What seemed to take the Bulldogs by surprise was that all these Yankees with all those uncommon names were not only big, but they could run.

In the end Joe Paterno finally got his ride off the field at the Sugar Bowl instead of plodding back to the interview area to explain why. He finally got, and gave his people, the national championship they've had on their gift list. Three times he had come close, but that's like being vice-president.

For Dooley the worst had been confirmed. All the things he'd hoped wouldn't happen had. Under the glare of the third-degree lights he sat, a coach 33-3 over three years. Out in the passageway three broad sheets of paper were laid out on the concrete, each 50 feet long or more, bearing the names and expressions of faith from those who had followed his team to New Orleans. It was not the best of his times, but neither was it the worst.



Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined
That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

16 mg "tar," 1.0 mg nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Dec.'81

Stumbling Huskers Escape LSU

By EDWIN POPE

MIAMI—The NBC network, whipped from the outset, started New Year's Day fouled up and never caught up.

Nebraska's irresistible Cornhuskers, 10½-point favorites, got fouled up, too, early in the 49th Orange Bowl Classic. They just kept trying until they got it straight enough to overhaul Louisiana State, 21-20, in one of the most suspenseful Orange Bowl games ever.

Measure Nebraska's offense this final way after a 12-1-0 season when they led the nation in scoring, total attack and rushing offense: They made six huge errors—four fumbles, two interceptions—against an alert LSU defense. They misfired on a fake punt and a fake field goal. They also missed a 40-yard field goal attempt, and they still won.

That's Nebraska, and what wouldn't we give to see the Cornhuskers get another crack at Penn State—the team that beat the Huskers, 27-24, on a touchdown pass in the last two seconds back in September. Penn State eventually made it to No. 1 after beating Georgia, 27-23, in the Sugar Bowl. Nebraska wound up ranked No. 2 by THE SPORTING NEWS and No. 3 by the wire services.

Nebraska finally beat the Bayou Tigers on Turner Gill's one-yard sneak after LSU gave the Cornhuskers a golden opportunity—for a change.

A big gamble by LSU punter Clay Parker, to try to run on fourth and 19 from his 36—fell eight yards short. The Cornhusker hammer came down from there and it was goodbye, gallant LSU.

In the end, LSU Coach Jerry Stovall called the game right and still wound up on the wrong end of the score. Stovall had said on New Year's Eve that he tries to copy the "patience and flexibility" of Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne. Patience and flexibility were just what won.

The Huskers were willing to wait. And they took chances in putting the ball up when conventional tactics would have kept it on the ground.

Nebraska trailed, 17-7, in the third quarter after three fumbles and an interception in the first half. Conceivably, without those errors, the Cornhuskers could have led by 31-3, for each Nebraska mess-up either cost the Cornhuskers a possible touchdown or gave up one.

Then quarterback Gill, who sat out last year's 22-15 Orange Bowl loss to Clemson with a nerveless leg, came up the line on fourth and one at LSU's 35. Instead of sending bread-and-butter I-back Mike Rozier into the line, Gill got the first down on an 18-yard pass to split end Todd Brown at the Tigers' 17. Three plays later, Gill pulled another pass out of the hat, 11 yards to Rozier in the right flat for the touchdown that pulled Nebraska back to within 17-14.

Then LSU gambled and the backfire by Parker shot Nebraska over the top.

Ever see a punter who wasn't a frustrated runner? Parker thought he saw a glimmer of a hole.

Trouble on the Network

| SCORE BY PERIODS | | | | LSU | Nebraska |
|--|-------|--------|--------------------|--|----------|
| Louisiana State | 7 | 7 | 3 | 3-20 | 173 184 |
| Nebraska | 7 | 0 | 7 | 7-21 | 23 54 |
| SCORING | | | | | |
| Nebraska—Schellen 1 run (Seibel kick). | | | | | |
| LSU—Hilliard 1 run (Betanzos kick). | | | | | |
| LSU—Hilliard 1 run (Betanzos kick). | | | | | |
| LSU—Field goal Betanzos 28 | | | | | |
| Nebraska—Rozier 11 pass from Gill (Seibel kick). | | | | | |
| Nebraska—Gill 1 run (Seibel kick). | | | | | |
| LSU—Field goal Betanzos 47 | | | | | |
| TEAM STATISTICS | | | | INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS | |
| LSU | 12 | 22 | 31-63 | RUSHING—LSU, Hilliard 8-29 Parker 1-12, Montz 4-9, Nebraska—Rozier 26-118, Gill 12-37, Schellen 5-23 | 184 |
| Nebraska | 22 | 58-237 | 58-237 | PASSING—LSU, Risher 14-30-2-173, Nebraska—Gill 13-22-2-184. | 54 |
| First downs | 12 | 22 | RUSHES-YARDS | RECEIVING—LSU, Scott 4-67, Hilliard 8-82, Martin 2-24, Nebraska—Fryar 5-84, Brown 4-51 | 22 |
| Rushes-Yards | 31-63 | 58-237 | Time of possession | Attendance | 34:32 |
| | | | | | 54,407 |

"The snap was a little to the left," he said. "I felt pressure from the left. I took one step and saw the guy from the left would block the punt if I tried it."

Parker put on a little wrinkle and slid by. "Then I started to punt, but I looked upfield and it was wide open," Parker said.

It wasn't that wide open. Nebraska's Jeff Smith tackled Parker eight yards shy of the first down. "I should have punted it after I got rid of the first guy," Parker said afterward.

Even Coach Stovall supported Parker's first decision. "That sucker would have been blocked if Clay had tried to get it past the first guy," Stovall said.

Coulda, woulda, shoulda . . . kaput.

Nebraska swept 47 yards to the winning touchdown as casually as it had gone 11-1-0 in the regular season.

Gill, who produced 184 yards passing on 12 completions in 23 throws, got help from the zebras. Louisiana State interference put the ball at the 35. After Rozier gained two yards, Gill found wingback Irving Fryar clear on a slant over the middle.

Stovall had called Fryar "the most exciting player in America"—and wished he hadn't been so close to right. Fryar completed the 29-yard gain for a first down at the LSU 4-yard line. Two plays later, Gill burst across for a yard, a touchdown and the 21-17 lead with 11:18 left to play.

Nebraska had a chance a few minutes later to get its lead up to 11 points, but a wide-open Tim Brungardt dropped Gill's perfect pass at the LSU 5 on a fake field goal. An interception on the Huskers' next possession set up LSU at the Nebraska 37, and the Tigers settled for a 49-yard field goal by Juan Betanzos on fourth-and-six.

That made the score 21-20 with five minutes left, and LSU never came close again as Nebraska burned up the clock, mostly on the running of Rozier.

The consolation to LSU (other than Stovall's sincere statement that the Tigers "played the No. 3 team (wire service ratings) in the country to a standstill") is that NBC-TV had an even worse day.

Don Criqui and John Brodie did a splendid job of announcing But the network in general suffered, or brought upon itself, problem after problem.

The network was in deep enough trouble just fighting Penn State's game with Georgia in the Sugar Bowl. NBC-TV compounded that by failing to allow enough time for the Fiesta Bowl and Rose Bowl games earlier in the day. It just added the Fiesta to the New Year's lineup, and the game did not start until 10:30 Pacific time—1:30 Eastern—because it felt that any earlier time would hurt the Phoenix crowd.

What's the difference? If you have to go to a game at 10:30 a.m., how much worse is it to make it by 10?

That tiny variable could have been a large help to NBC-TV. The Fiesta and Rose games put the network so far behind that the Orange Bowl telecasts scheduled at 8 p.m., didn't go off until 8:36, keeping the smallest Orange Bowl crowd in 36 years (54,407, with 14,306 no-shows obviously more interested in Penn State-Georgia on ABC) cooling its heels.

As a final non-fillip, the network worked the most dazzling halftime show in a long line of football's most sensational by running so many closeups that it missed the marvelous panorama of computerized pyrotechnics. The London Royal Philharmonic Orchestra was brought in as the centerpiece of the show that utilized hundreds of millions of lighting combinations.

Nebraska finally pulled its act together better than the network. It took a terrific turnaround and late help from LSU.

Nebraska ripped off 51 yards in six plays to lead, 7-0, on Mark Schellen's five-yard run in the Huskers' opening drive. But after that it was toil and trouble, boil and bubble.

Rozier's fumble on Nebraska's second series was snapped up by Lifford Hobley at the Cornhuskers' 11. The Tigers spent five plays trying to get over from the 3. They finally did on a one-yard run by Dalton Hilliard, the fine freshman tailback who was held to 34 yards in 18 carries.

Tied 7-7, the Tigers went back on the attack when Rydell Malancon claimed Schellen's fumble deep in LSU territory at the 15. The Tigers had to punt, but Fryar's fumble gave the ball back to LSU's Gene Lang at Nebraska's 45.

That made three Nebraska errors, and LSU made every blessed one of them count. Alan Risher hit Hilliard with big passes of 24 and 14 yards and Hilliard scored from the 1 for a 14-7 lead in the second quarter.

Another Nebraska mistake in the third quarter gave LSU a 17-7 advantage. Lawrence Williams recovered Gill's fumbled pitchout to set up LSU at Nebraska's 40. Betanzos' 28-yard field goal made it 17-7, LSU.

Osborne refused to contest Penn State's bid for No. 1.

"Some arguments can be made for Nebraska, although I don't think we played well enough tonight," said Osborne. "If you look over our 13 games, we may deserve it. But that's the fallacy about the whole thing—the voting by coaches and writers in the polls. I hate to have to get up here on this podium and campaign for this great team."

Bo's Sixth Loss in Seven Rose Bowl Bids

By ART SPANDER

PASADENA—Long acknowledged as a man of intensity and occasional bad manners, Michigan Coach Glenn E. (Bo) Schembechler has displayed exemplary behavior in his team's most recent trips to the Rose Bowl.

He has learned to accept defeats almost as if they were preordained, which, all things considered, perhaps they are.

When UCLA defeated Michigan, 24-14, in a rather uneventful game New Year's Day, 1983, it was the eighth time in the last nine years the Big Ten had discovered year-opening humility. Times indeed have changed.

The original contract between the Big Ten and what then was the Pacific Coast Conference was created before the 1947 Rose Bowl game. It created considerable disenchantment on the West Coast. Later it would bring only disappointment, at least for those in California and points north.

Champion of the West in 1946, UCLA was prepared to play the unbeaten Army team led by Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard on January 1, 1947. But the agreement dictated the Rose Bowl would be contested only between schools from the two leagues.

"Illinois was the Big Ten champ," recalled Tom Fears, a member of that UCLA team who went on to star in the pros and is now an executive of the Los Angeles Express franchise in the new USFL. "We wanted Army. We didn't have our hearts in the game against Illinois."

Whatever the reason, Illinois pummeled UCLA, 45-14, establishing a trend. For 12 of the first 13 years of the agreement, Big Ten teams not only won, but won decisively.

One columnist went so far as to claim West Coast athletes were soft because they drank fresh orange juice. The beach boys had no chance against kids from America's heartland. Compassionate journalists begged for termination of the Rose Bowl contract for humanitarian reasons.

This argument is being raised once more, but now it is the Big Ten which needs mercy. Having won 17 of the 24 games since 1960, the West Coast, now represented by the Pacific 10,

Same Old Story

| SCORE BY PERIODS | | | | JCLA | Michigan |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--|----------|
| UCLA | 7 | 3 | 7 | 18-25-0 | 19-34-3 |
| Michigan | 0 | 0 | 7 | 6-32-2 | 6-40-3 |
| SCORING | | | | | |
| UCLA—Ramsey 1 run (Lee kick). | | | | | |
| UCLA—Field goal Lee 39. | | | | | |
| Michigan—Garrett 1 pass from Hall (Haji-Sheikh kick). | | | | | |
| UCLA—Andrews 9 run (Lee kick). | | | | | |
| UCLA—Montgomery 11 pass interception (Lee kick). | | | | | |
| Michigan—Rice 4 pass from Hall (Haji-Sheikh kick) | | | | | |
| TEAM STATISTICS | | | | INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS | |
| UCLA | 19 | 19 | 47-181 | RUSHING—UCLA, Nelson 11-48, Ramsey 10-25, Andrews 12-42, Cephus 8-46, Scott 1-1, Bruno 3-14, Wiley 2-5; Michigan, Rice 4-8, Ricks 23-88, Carter 2-minus 3, 5, Smith 3-15, Hall 4-minus 10, Rogers 2-12 | 19 |
| Michigan | 209 | 63 | 162 | PASSING—UCLA, Ramsey 18-25-0—2-12, Michigan, S. Smith 6-9-1—54, Hall 13-24-2—15, Carter 0-1-0 | 34 |
| First downs | 19 | 19 | 57 | RECEIVING—UCLA, Townsend 4-45, Bruno 2-11, Bergmann 6-48, Young 1-9, Nelson 1-14, Carney 2-33, Cephus 1-0, Andrews 1-2; Michigan, Dunaway 5-110, Rice 4-17, Ricks 2-4, Carter 5-59, Bean 1-12, Garrett 1-1, Rogers 1-6 | 37 |
| Rushes-Yards | 47-181 | 38-110 | 57 | Attendance | 27-41 |
| Passing-Yards | 162 | 209 | 63 | | |
| Return-Yards | 57 | 63 | | | |

has nearly evened the record, trailing in the series only 19-18.

In a little more than a decade, Schembechler's Michigan teams have contributed to this balance. The Wolverines' loss in Rose Bowl No. 69 was their sixth in seven attempts under Schembechler.

Michigan definitely seemed overmatched against UCLA, which earlier this season had spotted the Wolverines a 21-0 lead at Ann Arbor and come back to win, 31-27.

At UCLA's home field, which the Rose Bowl had become this season following the Bruins' move from the Los Angeles Coliseum, Michigan figured to have even greater troubles. It did.

On the third play of the game, the Wolverines lost starting offensive left tackle Rich Strenger. In the middle of the second quarter, they lost quarterback Steve Smith. Eventually they were also to lose the ball four times, three on interceptions, one on a fumble, and, naturally, the game.

Possessing one of the better offenses and the most accurate passer, Tom Ramsey, in college football, UCLA was irritatingly

conservative in establishing a 10-0 first-half lead. Possibly the strategy was to bore the Wolverines to death.

The Rose Bowl is known as the granddaddy of postseason games. But granddaddy dozed off. So, apparently, did 104,991 fans.

Paying \$30 a ticket, patrons thought they might get the best show this side of Broadway. Until the second half, what they got was football as old fashioned as the celluloid collar.

UCLA was determined not to make mistakes. It didn't. The Bruins never had a fumble, never threw an interception and were penalized only twice for 10 yards.

In joining Ramsey as co-player of the game, a UCLA safety named Don Rogers reinforced his reputation as a young man not afraid of contact.

Assigned the unenviable task of covering Michigan's marvelous flanker, Anthony Carter, Rogers proved quite adequate. Carter caught only five passes for 59 yards and no touchdowns. Smith caught something else, which proved to be his undoing.

Running the option play, Smith refused to slide to the turf when he saw the enemy approaching. Thus was he smacked by Rogers and departed for good with a shoulder separation Adios, Big Ten.

"Maybe that was the key factor in the game," said UCLA Coach Terry Donohue, who'd been criticized for his style but could glory in a record that concluded 10-1-1. "It would be like us trying to play without Ramsey."

<p

Pony Express Delivers Blow to Pitt

By BOB SMIZIK

DALLAS—From SMU and the Pony Express offense of Eric Dickerson and Craig James you'd expect touchdowns, touchdowns, touchdowns.

From Pitt and the Danny Marino aerial circus, you would likewise expect touchdowns, touchdowns, touchdowns.

From Dallas and the Cotton Bowl, deep in the heart of the Sun Belt, you would expect sunny skies and temperatures well above freezing.

Well, the 60,359 who showed up New Year's Day for the 47th renewal of the Cotton Bowl as well as the 11,118 who bought tickets and stayed home to watch it on TV got none of that.

Instead, they got a fierce defensive struggle, biting cold, driving rain and, for God's sake, a fourth-quarter sleet storm.

It was no picnic in Dallas on January 1, unless, your name was Lance McIlhenny, who happens to be the SMU quarterback. The gritty McIlhenny, son of former pro Don McIlhenny, seemed almost immune to the elements as he led the Mustangs to a 7-3 win over Pitt.

While others found the ball difficult to handle, McIlhenny, almost unknown for his passing skills, found Bobby Leach for gains of 20 and 42 yards late in the third quarter to set up the only touchdown of the game early in the fourth. He caught the Pitt defense expecting a pitch to James off the option. Instead, McIlhenny cut back inside for a nine-yard score.

Aside from that, and a 43-yard third-quarter field goal by Pitt's Eric Schubert, it was a day for defense and mistakes and mistakes and mistakes.

Pitt failed to capitalize on three excellent scoring opportunities, with Joe McCall fumbling on the SMU 1 in the first quarter, Schubert missing a 26-yard chip shot in the second quarter and Marino firing an interception into the end zone in the fourth quarter on a pass he later admitted he should not have thrown.

SMU was not errorless. McIlhenny fumbled on the Pitt 7 in the first quarter after SMU had moved 91 yards in more than nine minutes. Dickerson picked up 52 and another 40 came on Pitt penalties, two of which were flagrant late hits.

The win capped a splendid season for the Mustangs and Coach Bobby Collins, who was in his first year after eight seasons at Southern Mississippi. It also left the Mustangs as the only undefeated major college team in the country (11-0-1), but without the national championship. Penn State beat Georgia later in the day and was voted No. 1 by THE SPORTING News and both wire-service polls. SMU was picked fifth by TSN, second in both wire-service polls.

That left Collins, who'd played for a tie instead of a win against Arkansas November 20, a little unhappy.

"As far as I'm concerned," he said, "this is the No. 1 team. How else can you judge a team than by what they do? This team has done everything this season. They did everything they had to."

For Pitt, which went into 1982 as the top-ranked team in the country and with an offense that figured to be close to unstoppable, the game was a microcosm of the season. Missed opportunities had been the Panthers trademark in the first 11 games, as they were in the 12th.

Pitt Stopped

| SCORE BY PERIODS | | | PIT | SMU |
|--|---------|--------|---|-----|
| Pittsburgh | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0-3 |
| SMU | 0 | 0 | 7-7 | |
| SCORING | | | | |
| Pittsburgh—Field goal Schubert 43. SMU—McIlhenny 9 run (Harrell kick) | | | | |
| TEAM STATISTICS | | | INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS | |
| PIT | SMU | | RUSHING—Pittsburgh, Thomas 13-69, McCall 9-16, SMU, Dickerson 27-124, James 14-54, McIlhenny 14-17. | |
| First downs | 17 | 22 | PASSING—Pittsburgh, Marino 19-37-1 181, SMU, McIlhenny 5-8-0, 101, James 0-1-0-0 | |
| Rushes-Yards | 29-104 | 60-153 | RECEIVING—Pittsburgh, McCall 5-58, Thomas 5-38, SMU, Leach 2-62, James 3- 0 | |
| Passing yards | 181 | 101 | | |
| Return yards | 28 | 0 | | |
| Passes | 19-37-1 | 5-9-0 | | |
| Punts | 3-44.0 | 4-38.0 | | |
| | | | Attendance: 60,359 | |

"This game could exemplify the whole season," said Pitt middle guard J. C. Pelusi, who led yet another excellent, but futile, Pitt defensive effort. Pitt finished ninth in the TSN and UPI rankings, 10th in the A.P. poll.

Pitt's defensive game plan was obvious from the start—don't let Dickerson or James get outside. And toward that end, it was a success. Though Dickerson ran for 124 yards, he never broke the big one. His longest gain was 16. James picked up 54 yards on 14 carries and his longest run was 12 yards.

"No doubt that Pitt put a priority on stopping our pitch men," said Collins. "If they talked to Jackie Sherrill (who moved from Pitt to Texas A&M after the 1981 season), I'm sure he told them, 'You can't let their pitch men get outside.'

"They came out there today very well prepared. I'm sure they had a pretty good book on us. That makes it even sweeter."

If Pitt had a book on SMU's passing game, it was probably extremely thin. McIlhenny had averaged only 11 throws a game during the regular season.

But there it was late in the third quarter, with Pitt having just taken the lead, and maybe it was time for SMU to think about the pass. After all, the run hadn't put any points on the board.

"I told the coach at halftime that we could pass on them," said Leach.

So after Dickerson had hammered the Pitt line for 12 yards following the kickoff, McIlhenny passed 20 yards to Leach, the very same player who'd taken a lateral and gone 91 yards with a kickoff return in the final seconds to give SMU a 34-27 win over Texas Tech.

When Leach was thrown for an 11-yard loss on a reverse on the next play, SMU offensive coordinator Whitey Jordan called for a long pass to Leach. On the sidelines, Collins initially balked. McIlhenny, not the owner of the world's strongest arm, would have to throw into a 15-mile per hour wind. Why not, Collins reasoned, wait a few minutes and get the wind at his back?

But Jordan persisted. He wanted "16 x-and-z up," a pattern that sends both wide receivers on deep sideline routes. Collins, during a timeout, relented. "They're up there studying everything that's going on," he said. "They know when it's time to try certain things."

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It was the first post-season victory for the Falcons, who owed defensive end Carl Dieudonne a debt of thanks. He put a blemish on Taylor's outstanding passing performance by grabbing two interceptions. The last one set up the go-ahead score.

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Seminole Coach Bobby Bowden said he started Williams ahead of regular quarterback Kelly Lowrey because the game was played in a steady rain.

"Blair's hands are bigger than Kelly's," said Bowden, "so he can throw in the rain."

Blair did, completing 16 of 20 attempts for 202 yards. Those figures included a 27-yard scoring pass to Dennis McKinnon.

TSN's Top Ten

By JOE MARCIN

1. Penn State (11-1-0)
2. Nebraska (12-1-0)
3. UCLA (10-1-1)
4. Georgia (11-1-0)
5. So. Methodist (11-0-1)
6. Arizona State (10-2-0)
7. Washington (10-2-0)
8. Clemson (9-1-1)
9. Pittsburgh (9-3-0)
10. Auburn (9-3-0)

Leach got open easily on Pitt cornerback Troy Hill. "I saw on film that receivers who weren't that fast were getting by him," Leach said.

Leach made his move, the ball was there and SMU was on the Pitt 20.

Collins would take none of the credit for the play. "I came close to vetoing that play," he said. "I'd love to take credit for it, but let's give Whitey the credit."

Three plays after Leach's catch, the ball was on the 9.

McIlhenny faked Dickerson into the middle, then started moving down the line of scrimmage. When an alley opened, McIlhenny faked the pitch to James and started up field. Pitt linebacker Yogi Jones had a shot at the 4, but bounced off and McIlhenny was into the end zone for the game's only touch-down.

Pitt had two more chances. Using a short passing game and an occasional run by tailback Bryan Thomas, Marino moved Pitt from its own 26 to a first down on the SMU 7. A run and a pass got nothing. The pressure was on. A field goal would do Pitt no good.

Marino went back. Under pressure, he left the pocket and calmly motioned Dwight Collins more toward the center of the end zone. But Collins wasn't the only player who saw Marino's hand gesture. Strong safety Wes Hopkins also saw it.

Running to his right, Marino threw against his body. "He couldn't put anything on it," said Collins. "It was sort of a floater."

Marino was more direct. "It was a mistake," he said. "I should have thrown the ball out of bounds."

Hopkins stepped in front of Collins, deflected the ball and before it came down, cornerback Blane Smith had the interception.

The Pitt defense gave up one first down and held. Pitt took over for its last try on its own 38 with 4:20 remaining. Thomas got eight on a run and a 1-yard pass to McCall became a 16-yard gain when Michael Carter delivered a late hit.

But that was it for Pitt. On fourth down, Marino, throwing for Collins, slightly underthrew the ball. A diving Collins got his hands on the ball but dropped it.

"Danny threw well today," said Pitt Coach Foge Fazio, "but I've never seen us drop so many." Pitt went with a three wide receiver offense for much of the game. All three—Collins, Julius Dawkins, who did not catch a pass, and Barry Compton—had two drops.

Marino was diplomatic. "I thought we only dropped a few," he said.

For Pitt, which started 13 seniors, it was a disappointing ending to a disappointing season. This was the football team that was supposed to win it all. It went into the season with what some people thought were the best receivers in the country, the best offensive line in the country and the best quarterback in the country. They were virtually everyone's No. 1.

But along the way, something went sour. And it was never more evident than at the Cotton Bowl where this supposedly mighty offense was held without a touchdown. It was the first time since 1975, when Navy shut them down, 17-0, that the Panthers failed to score a touchdown.

Sun Devils Survive OU's Heavy Arsenal

Freshman running back Marcus Dupree was able to play only three quarters. Then, a hamstring pull sent the University of Oklahoma star to the sidelines of the Fiesta Bowl game in Tempe, Ariz.

Moreover, said his coach, Barry Switzer, Dupree was carrying too much weight. Said Switzer, who claimed Dupree was 12 pounds too heavy, "He'll have to discipline himself next year."

All this, and Dupree still set a Fiesta Bowl record, rushing for 239 yards on 17 carries. Included were scampers of 56, 48 and 56 yards. He was named offensive player of the game.

"If he gains that much in part of a game," said ASU Coach Darryl Rogers, "I'd hate to see what he can do in 60 minutes. Marcus was a little more than we expected."

Yet, somehow, when the dust had settled January 1, Arizona State earned a 32-21 victory. The nation's top-ranked defense surrendered 457 yards but used turnovers to turn the game around.

Oklahoma lost four of six fumbles and quarterback Kelly Phelps suffered an interception as the Sun Devils rallied twice from deficits to end their season at 10-2.

"We thought we had our turnover situation under control with only 16 fumbles through the regular season," said Switzer, "but the five turnovers today was a key factor."

ASU quarterback Todd Hons completed nine of 13 passes in the second half for 239 yards to set up two touchdowns and account for another. He was but eight of 22 in the first half.

And as for Dupree's weight?

"I'm at the same weight (232) that I was the last four or five games," he said. "Basically, this was my best game all year."

Air Force Strikes Late

Vanderbilt quarterback Whit Taylor completed 38 of 51 passes for 452 yards, including 20 to tailback Norman Jordan, who set a Hall of Fame Bowl record. But it all went for naught when Air Force struck for three fourth-quarter touchdowns

and fought back from an 11-point deficit for a 36-28 victory December 31 in Birmingham, Ala.

"If heaven is any better than this," said Air Force Coach Ken Hatfield, "then take me tomorrow. This is as good as any win I've ever been associated with."

It was the first post-season victory for the Falcons, who owed defensive end Carl Dieudonne a debt of thanks. He put a blemish on Taylor's outstanding passing performance by grabbing two interceptions. The last one set up the go-ahead score.

Blair did, completing 16 of 20 attempts for 202 yards. Those figures included a 27-yard scoring pass to Dennis McKinnon.

Allen, a sophomore who had shared time with senior Ricky Williams, logged 138 yards on 15 carries and scored two touchdowns. "The sweeps were working well," said Allen. "They didn't stop too many of them."

Another Allen, Greg's teammate Billy, embellished the Seminoles' attack with a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown. The runback was a Gator Bowl record.

Arkansas Wears Bluebonnet

Gary Anderson of Arkansas seems to save his best for the postseason, as the University of Florida sadly learned December 31 in the Bluebonnet Bowl in Houston.

The 180-pound senior, who had been selected the Most Valuable Player of the 1980 Hall of Fame Bowl and the 1981 Gator Bowl, added MVP honors from the '82 Bluebonnet after carrying 26 times for 161 yards and scoring two touchdowns.

Arkansas had to rally from a 17-7 halftime deficit before claiming a 28-24 victory. Quarterback Tom Jones, who shared duties with Brad Taylor, was the hero in a frenetic finish, passing five yards to Jessie Clark for one touchdown and sneaking one yard for another.

Iowa Is Just Peachy

Quarterback Chuck Long of Iowa dismantled Peach Bowl records as he completed 11 straight passes—19 of 26 for the day—en route to 394 yards and three touchdowns. Buoyed by that performance, the Hawkeyes held off Tennessee, 28-22, on December 31 at Atlanta.

"We kind of made up for last year," said Long, alluding to a 28-0 loss to Washington in the 1982 Rose Bowl. "We really wanted to go back to a bowl of national prominence and prove ourselves."

Tennessee quarterback Alan Cockrell did not go down without a fight, completing 22 of 41 passing attempts for 221 yards, scoring one touchdown and passing for another.

PRO FOOTBALL FOCUS

Great Scott

Bears Coach Mike Ditka ended receiver James Scott's season prematurely by placing the forgotten pass-catcher on injured reserve and indicated what it would take for him to be a producer next season.

Said Ditka, "The only way for James to get in shape is to stay here in the off-season and work a minimum of three to four days a week in the weight room. I think if he's willing to do that, James will have no problems. He'll probably have a number of good years ahead of him."

After catching 36 passes for the Bears in 1980, Scott jumped to Montreal of the Canadian Football League where he caught 81 balls in 1981. He returned to the Bears after signing a new three-year, \$750,000 contract but injuries marred his entire season. Most prominent were groin and hamstring troubles that limited him to two catches all season.

After the Bears' December 12 loss to Seattle, Scott said he'd be glad when the season was over. Responded Ditka, "I wish he'd tell me that. I'd get all his seasons over with the Bears." But Ditka knows what a healthy Scott could mean to the team and how much work it will take.

"He's at a point in his career where he's got to decide what's best for him if he's going to play," Ditka said. "It hurts him not to be able to do the things he knows he can do. But there's no way you can do those things unless you're 100 percent physically fit. And the only way you can get that fit is to go into a rigid training and conditioning program to get those legs back where they belong."

Something Fishy

When some members of the Buffalo Bills went on a fishing trip recently, they didn't realize the workout they were facing. Because the Bills played successive road games in Tampa and Miami, the team set up shop at Vero Beach, Fla., for a week of practice. They used the Dodgertown facilities of the Los Angeles Dodgers and New Orleans Saints, who spend training camp there.

On the normal Tuesday off, guards Jim Ritcher and Tom Lynch, tackle Ken Jones, quarterback Matt Kofler and defensive lineman Mark Roopenian chartered a fishing boat. Ritcher was the star of the day, landing a 7-foot sailfish. But not without a fight.

"It took me about 20 minutes to get him in the boat," the 6-3, 251-pound Ritcher said. "I was so tired, I almost gave up." Ritcher wasn't alone in his trouble. Said he, "Ken Jones (6-5, 250) hooked a bonita and he gave up after about five minutes because he said the fish tired him out."

Give them NFL defensive linemen any day

Jackson Suspended by Rozelle

NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle suspended Seahawks linebacker Michael Jackson for the team's final game. This was the second suspension by the commissioner since the resumption of play after the strike. The first was Jets linebacker Stan Blanka, who was sat down for one game for a hit on John Jefferson November 28. Jackson's suspension was the result of a series of incidents in Seattle's December 12 and 19 games with Chicago and New England.

After the game with the Patriots, guard John Hannah said he wasn't surprised that Jackson had tried to punch him. "I saw the game films of Jackson and what he did to Noah (Bears' guard Noah Jackson). So I knew he was capable of that stuff," Hannah said. Seattle's Jackson was penalized three times during the fourth quarter of the game with New England.

Seahawks interim Coach Mike McCormack had a talk with Jackson after the New England game and said, "Michael played with more control against Cincinnati (December 26)." Added McCormack, "I like people to play with emotion if they can control their emotions. You can't let your emotions control you."

Milestones

Franco Harris' 120-yard day January 2 left him just 57 yards short of 11,000 yards for his career. Harris will start the 1983 season 293 yards behind second-place O.J. Simpson and 1,369 behind all-time leader Jim Brown. Walter Payton finished the season with 10,204 yards for his career, 739 behind Harris. Both Payton and Harris are also moving up the all-time list for combined yardage, including rushing, receiving and return yardage. Payton now has 13,224 yards in his career while Harris has 13,177, ranking them in fourth- and fifth-place respectively. The all-time leader is Brown with 15,459. Earl Campbell closed the season five yards away from the 7,000-yard mark for his career.

Harold Carmichael stands in seventh-place on the all-time receiving list with 551 catches, 16 behind Lionel Taylor. An earlier column indicated Charley Taylor as the man immediately above Carmichael. C. Taylor is the all-time leader with 649 receptions. Ken Anderson moved past Craig Morton and into ninth-place on the all-time passing list. Anderson has 28,057 yards. Terry Bradshaw moved into the all-time top 10, passing both Joe Namath and Morton. Bradshaw now has



By HOWARD BALZER,
Associate News Editor

27,912 yards. Dan Fouts is in 13th place with 27,145 yards.

Greg Pruitt, with 11,331 combined yards for his career is in 14th place on the all-time list while Bruce Harper moved into 18th place with 10,527 yards. While Mark Moseley's consecutive field goal string was stopped at 23, Moseley established a new record for field-goal percentage in a season. Jan Stenerud held the record (91.67) for just one year as Moseley's 95.24 set the new standard.

Around the USFL

The Philadelphia Stars and Michigan State University reached an out-of-court settlement of the Stars' suit against the school for hiring away Coach George Perles. Stars Owner Myles Tanenbaum would not reveal the details of the settlement. The New Jersey Generals are close to signing former Oklahoma quarterback Thomas Lott, who spent time with the NFL Cardinals as a running back. The Michigan Panthers reportedly have sold just 1,200 season tickets. Prices for some tickets are higher than the NFL Lions.

After the start of training camp, USFL teams must be down to 70 players by February 7, to 58 by February 20 and to 45 on February 27. Subsequently, five players can be added to fill out the 10-man development squad. San Diego assistant Steve Shafer is the first man hired to aid Los Angeles Express Coach Hugh Campbell. The Chicago Blitz named former Packers assistant Ray Wietecha as offensive backfield coach. The Denver Gold will probably sign offensive lineman Glenn Hyde, recently released by the Colts.

Bill Hunt, assistant executive director of the NCAA, has indicated that the lease agreement between the Arizona Wranglers and Sun Devil Stadium appears to conflict with a provision of the NCAA constitution which requires "a clear line of demarcation between college athletics and professional sports." One of the segments of the lease in question is an agreement that the Wranglers would finance a new locker room and relocate the weight room. Because there were a shortage of players available from Northern Michigan this season, the Panthers added Western Michigan as one of the five territorial schools with Northern being dropped.

Yet another name has surfaced in the Arizona Wranglers' seemingly endless search for a head coach. Reports are that Arizona is talking to Chuck Studley, defensive coordinator of the NFL's 49ers. The Blitz will soon make a decision whether to sign Michael Sifford, the prison inmate granted a tryout by the team. Sifford has been cleared for a work release program but under the terms of the program, he cannot leave the state of Illinois and must report in every night. The Blitz will be training in Arizona. One possibility is that Sifford would not attend camp but would then be retained on the team's 10-man development squad. After the tryout with Chicago, Sifford also got a look from a representative of the NFL Broncos.

Faces and Places

Broncos secondary coach Richie McCabe, who underwent surgery for cancer of the colon during the player strike and then returned to the team on a limited basis, has been readmitted to a Denver hospital after his condition worsened. When McCabe went back to the hospital, Coach Dan Reeves said, "All of us have known about Richie's condition for some time, but I think the severity of it really hit our team today." McCabe, the father of two girls, 7 and 12, is in St. Luke's Hospital. The Giants announced that the Timothy J. Mara Scholarship Award for this year will go into a trust fund for the college education of 8-year-old Doug Kotar Jr. The \$5,000 grant is given annually to the son or daughter of a former Giant. Doug Kotar Sr., a Giants running back, underwent surgery for a brain tumor last August. The Giants also announced a farewell dinner for Coach Ray Perkins on January 18, 1983. Proceeds will go to a scholarship fund for Kotar's children.

Oilers defensive end Elvin Bethea has until January 14 to decide whether to accept an offer from Budweiser or return to the team for another year. Redskins defensive end Dexter Manley was fined \$100 for altering his car's temporary license plates and was given a conditionally suspended six-month sentence and another fine of \$600 for impersonating a police officer. A Los Angeles law firm reportedly approached Paul Martha about becoming the next executive director of the NFL Players' Association. Martha was instrumental in the settlement of the 57-day strike. His response? "I'm not interested."

The 49ers, who recently voted to oust Ed Garvey as the NFLPA's executive director, also took exception to a move by the union to raise dues for this past season. Said player rep Keith Fahnhorst, "Here we have been through this prolonged strike and are finally getting paid again and he wants to raise our dues right away." The team tried to have the dues held in an escrow account but found that was a violation of labor law so they were paid. The increase was a reported \$350. For the record, the tally for the players voting on the new collective bargaining agreement was 979 to accept, 261 to reject and 52 abstentions. Only union members were eligible to vote. Meanwhile, the Bills joined the Chargers, 49ers and Broncos as teams who have voted for the ouster of Garvey. Said Bills linebacker Isiah Robertson, "It's time for some new blood." The motion also called for an outside audit of the NFLPA's financial books.

Placekicker Toni Fritsch's recent decision to retire was prompted by negative fan reaction when the Saints played in Dallas December 19. Said Fritsch, "Dallas is where I began my

career. I went back there and my folks were in the stands. When I missed those field goals (a 29-yarder was blocked and a 40-yarder wasn't close), it was the first time in my life that I had ever heard the crowd. The fans were yelling things I didn't like. My folks heard them. I figured that was enough for me."

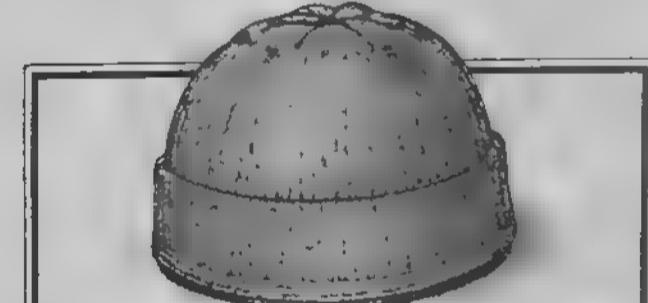
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion December 28 to investigate the contract signed between the L.A. Coliseum and the Raiders. The International Athletic Federation has declared 49ers receiver Renaldo Nehemiah ineligible for international competition in track.

There is growing tension in the Cowboys' receiver corps. Drew Pearson was publicly critical of teammate Butch Johnson recently. When Johnson caught a touchdown pass against the Eagles December 26, both Pearson and Tony Hill attempted to congratulate Johnson but he walked away. Said Pearson, "I tried to give him five, but he didn't want it." Dolphins linebacker A.J. Duhe was fined \$200 by the league for throwing his helmet in Miami's December 5 game with Minnesota. The league was reviewing a hit by Cardinals cornerback Jeff Griffin on Giants receiver Floyd Eddings December 26. Giants Coach Ray Perkins termed it a "cheap shot," but Eddings, ironically, didn't agree. Said Eddings, "When I looked at the films I could see I was still moving. I can see why he hit me. I don't want to call it a cheap shot."

Indiana University reportedly is very interested in Sam Wyche, the 49ers' offensive coordinator. Because of Wyche's commitments with the team, the university was willing to fly out its selection committee to San Francisco to meet with Wyche. However, Wyche is hopeful of landing an NFL head job, perhaps in Seattle if Mike McCormack is not retained. On that subject, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer reported that some 50 members of the team signed petitions asking the club's ownership to retain McCormack. Talk about a kiss of death.

Steelers Coach Chuck Noll will never forget the 1978 trade that sent receiver Frank Lewis to Buffalo. Pittsburgh received tight end Paul Seymour but was unaware that Seymour had a bad foot injury. Because the trade was not conditional, Lewis remained with the Bills and Seymour never played a down for Pittsburgh. In four seasons with Buffalo (1978-81), Lewis caught 205 balls. Before the two teams met last month, Noll was asked by a Buffalo writer about placekicker Gary Anderson, who was performing well for the Steelers after being cut by the Bills in training camp. Snapped Noll, "That was our player to be named later in the Lewis deal."

There could be some controversy developing because of a 1981 trade between the 49ers and Broncos involving quarterback Steve DeBerg. The 49ers were to receive a fourth-round 1983 pick from Denver but the pick would escalate to a third-round if DeBerg attempted 250 passes during 1982. Of course, when the deal was made, it could not be predicted that the '82 season would last only nine games. DeBerg was replaced by Mark Herrmann during the Broncos' December 26 game with the Raiders and Herrmann played the whole way in Denver's season finale. DeBerg finished the season with 223 attempts.



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Battered Redskins Shut Down Cards

WASHINGTON—Putting together perhaps their finest defensive effort of the season, the Washington Redskins pounded the St. Louis Cardinals, 28-0, January 2, to clinch the National Football Conference regular-season title.

Washington, 8-1, held the Cardinals, 5-4, to 18 total yards in the first half and shut down Ottis Anderson, with just 31 yards in 10 carries.

The Redskins intercepted Neil Lomax three times and recovered two fumbles, turning three of the mistakes into touchdowns. They also sacked Lomax five times.

Joe Theismann threw TD passes of 25 yards to Rick Walker, two yards to Clint Didier and eight yards to Joe Washington. Clarence Harmon ran one yard for the other score.

The victory sewed up the home field advantage for the Redskins for as long as they stay alive in the playoffs leading to the Super Bowl.

However, it was a costly win for the Redskins, who lost wide receiver Art Monk with a broken bone in his right foot. Monk was injured on the Redskins' sixth offensive play while diving for an incomplete pass. He will miss the playoffs. Washington also played minus running back John Riggins, who had a badly bruised thigh.

"This is the way we spent all last season, patching and looking around to see who was healthy enough to play," said Redskins Coach Joe Gibbs. "I'm happy we're in the playoffs, but things happen so quickly and there's so much to do, it's hard to remember to be happy."

Harmon carried the ball just 17 times for 105 yards in Washington's first eight games, but because of Riggins' injury, he saw extensive action against the Cardinals, rushing 21 times for 63 yards and catching three passes for 16 yards.

"I loved every minute of it," said Harmon. "I had forgotten how it felt to be sore after a game, but it's an enjoyable soreness."

Redskins kicker Mark Moseley saw his NFL record string of 23 consecutive field goals snapped when he missed a 40-yard attempt in the final seconds of the first half.

Cardinals Coach Jim Hanifan, although headed for the playoffs, was upset because of his team's mistakes. In addition to five turnovers, the Cardinals were penalized 13 times for 133 yards.

"Maybe the Redskins had an emotional edge," Hanifan said. "We've got an extremely young team and they might have enjoyed the victory last week that got them into the playoffs too much and couldn't really get anything going. We weren't doing a thing offensively."

Saints 35, Falcons 6

NEW ORLEANS—New Orleans came within a field goal of qualifying for the NFC playoffs for the first time in its 16-year history, only to be victimized by the league's tie-breaking formula.

The Saints did their best by clobbering Atlanta, but Chicago, San Francisco and Detroit also had to lose for New Orleans to qualify.

The Bears lost by three points in overtime and the 49ers fell by a point, but the Lions pulled out a victory over Green Bay by a field goal. That gave Detroit a 4-5 record identical to the marks compiled by the Saints and the New York Giants. Detroit received the bid because of its better intra-conference record.

The Saints' victory represented a strong turnaround from the Falcon's earlier 35-0 embarrassment of New Orleans. The difference was New Orleans quarterback Ken Stabler, who ignored a sore elbow while completing 24 of 35 passes for 271 yards.

"He simply picked us apart," said Falcons Coach Leeman Bennett, whose team finished with a 5-4 mark and earned a spot in the NFC playoffs. "He did a job on us, but he had some help, too. We just ran into a hot quarterback."

Three weeks earlier, Stabler had been held to seven completions in 18 attempts and was forced into three interceptions and two fumbles by the Falcons' defense.

"Whether or not we got into the playoffs, it was a good win for the Saints' program," said Stabler. "The Saints always have trouble with Atlanta."

Saints fullback Wayne Wilson rushed for 83 yards and three touchdowns in 22 carries and caught 11 passes for 89 yards. New Orleans also scored on an 11-yard TD pass from Stabler to Kenny Duckett, and Bill Hurley's 39-yard TD run after catching a pass from Russell Erxleben on a fake punt.

The New Orleans' defense held Falcons quarterback Steve Bartkowski to 14 completions in 21 attempts for 162 yards. The Saints also shut down the high-powered Atlanta rushing attack, limiting the Falcons to two Mick Luckhurst field goals.

Rams 21, 49ers 20

SAN FRANCISCO—San Francisco surprised the NFL last season with a 13-3 record en route to victory in the Super Bowl. But when the Los Angeles Rams, winners of only one game,

NFC ROUNDUP

surprised the 49ers in the finale of this strike-shortened season, it stopped the defending league champions from advancing to the playoffs.

The 49ers built a 20-7 halftime lead, but they never scored another point. Instead of winding up the season at 4-5 and gaining a playoff spot, the 49ers finished 3-6 and on the outside, along with the Rams (2-7).

"I'm at a loss to explain our performance," 49ers Coach Bill Walsh said. "I was very disappointed in many areas. I feel embarrassment and humiliation. This was a rather staggering experience. I am disappointed with the entire season, and this capped it."

On the other hand, Ray Malavasi, the Rams' coach who reportedly is on his way out, was as happy as he had been all season.

"It feels nice to win one," Malavasi said. "As far as I know, I'm working here next season. You guys (reporters) are the ones who keep saying I'll be fired."

Dana McLemore returned a punt 93 yards for a touchdown early in the first quarter to give San Francisco a 7-0 lead, and the score became 20-7 by halftime when 49ers quarterback Joe Montana connected on a 19-yard TD pass to Mike Wilson and a 29-yarder to Renaldo Nehemiah. But Ray Wersching missed the PAT on the Nehemiah score and L.A.'s Ivory Sully blocked his 24-yard field-goal attempt with under two minutes left in the contest.

Wendell Tyler took a three-yard TD pass from Vince Ferragamo for the Rams' first score, then ran for one yard for the second. Ferragamo finished the day with a 42-yard TD strike to George Farmer midway through the fourth quarter. Mike Lansford's PAT after that score stood up as the winning margin.

Lions 27, Packers 24

PONTIAC, Mich.—Detroit rookie Rob Rubick, a third-string tight end, hadn't touched the ball all season. But he scored a one-yard touchdown on an end-around with 5:47 left to put the Lions (4-5) into the NFC playoffs for the first time since 1970.

Detroit and the Cleveland Browns, who qualified for the AFC playoffs with a 4-5 mark, became the first teams in NFL history to make the playoffs with losing records.

"I don't care if we're the No. 8 seed," said Lions running back Billy Sims. "If we were ninth, we couldn't play at all."

Green Bay, which lost twice to Detroit in a 5-3-1 season, qualified for the NFC playoffs despite the loss.

"We still ended up with the home field advantage for the playoffs (at least the first round)," said Packers Coach Bart Starr. "That's very important to us. We're just going to put this game behind us and start preparing for a new season."

Green Bay led, 24-20, early in the fourth quarter when Detroit Coach Monte Clark replaced starting quarterback Gary Danielson with Eric Hippel. Hippel completed three passes in three tries to move Detroit from its own 40 to the Packers' 1 before the Lions coaches called for the unexpected end-around to Rubick.

Rubick, a 12th-round draft choice out of Grand Valley State, was in the regular offensive unit in place of injured Leonard Thompson, who normally would have run the ball on the play.

"I don't know if they realized Leonard was not in there, but I'm the only one who has run it in practice besides Leonard," said Rubick. "It's a great feeling. It's like shooting a deer . . . like shooting your first buck."

Another Detroit rookie—cornerback Bobby Watkins—loomed large in the Lions' victory, intercepting three Lynn Dickey passes.

Buccaneers 26, Bears 23

TAMPA, Fla.—Bill Capece booted a 40-yard field goal with 26 seconds left to force the game into overtime, then kicked a 33-yarder 3:54 into OT to send Tampa Bay into the NFC playoffs for the third time in four years.

The game-winner was set up by James Wilder's 47-yard run on the Buccaneers' first offensive play of the OT after Chicago failed to move the ball. Wilder, on only his second carry of the game, was pulled down at the Bears' 13. Quarterback Doug Williams then ran the ball on a keeper to put the ball right between the hash marks for Capece's kick.

"He who messes around in field-goal position lives to regret it," quipped Buccaneers Coach John McKay, whose team finished the season at 5-4 after an 0-3 start.

"McKay asked me where I wanted the ball set up and I said the middle," said Capece, whose kicking leg was heavily taped because of a nagging muscle pull. The field goal that tied the game was tougher because it was longer and into the wind."

Capece also had kicked second-quarter field goals of 27 and 31 yards and missed a fourth-quarter attempt from 38 yards.



The 49ers' Joe Montana holds his hands on his helmet in disbelief after Ray Wersching's 24-yard fourth-quarter field goal attempt is blocked, giving the Rams a 21-20 victory.

Chicago, using a dominating defense, led, 23-6, midway through the third quarter on linebacker Otis Wilson's 39-yard interception return for a touchdown. Bob Thomas' field goals of 19 and 43 yards and rookie quarterback Jim McMahon's 19-yard scoring toss to Brian Baschnagel.

But the Buccaneers stormed back on a third-quarter 35-yard TD pass from Williams to tight end Jimmie Giles and a fourth-quarter scoring toss of 31 yards, also to Giles.

"It was evident that we had our opportunities," said Bears Coach Mike Ditka, whose team finished the season at 3-6. "We let a good football team come back and beat us. It's unfortunate that we had it under control and lost it."

Giants 26, Eagles 24

PHILADELPHIA—Ray Perkins closed out his coaching career with New York on a winning note when Joe Danolo's 25-yard field goal with two seconds left edged Philadelphia. However, the Giants, who finished with a 4-5 record were knocked out of the NFC playoffs when New Orleans defeated Atlanta.

"I'm proud of our guys," said Perkins, who leaves the Giants to replace Bear Bryant at the University of Alabama. "We told them we're coming down here and give it one big shot. If it didn't work, we'd have six months to heal the wounds."

"I told everyone before the game not to win it for me, but to win it for themselves. I'm happy for the players. It's more important that the players won and they can look forward to 1983."

The Eagles led, 24-23, after Tony Franklin's 35-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter, but the Giants began the winning drive from their own 35 with 4:05 left. Quarterback Scott Brunner completed passes of 14 yards to Earnest Gray and 17 yards to Gary Shirk and Rob Carpenter carried four times for 22 yards to move the ball to the 8.

New York called time out with six seconds left. Danolo then kicked his fourth field goal of the game to help the Giants make amends for a pair of wrenching losses—15-14 to Washington and 24-21 to St. Louis—the previous two weeks.

"It was kinda nice to win one in the last few seconds rather than the other way around," Perkins said. "We did what we wanted to do when it counted."

The Eagles, 3-6 and out of the playoffs for the first time since 1977, led twice but couldn't put the Giants away. They managed just 201 yards total offense and hurt themselves with mistakes. These included seven penalties, two fumbled kickoffs by Wally Henry and a 17-yard punt by Max Runager.

"I love my players, but I didn't do a good enough job for them, and they didn't do a good enough job for me," said Eagles Coach Dick Vermeil. "I can't catch kickoffs, punt or stay onside for them. I thought we were well prepared, but the Giants are a better football team."

"Sure, I'm disappointed with the way the season went," Vermeil added. "I thought that when this team began winning after the first few years that I would never experience another season like this one. But that's the way things go."

Pats Stash Feud, Make Playoffs

FOXBORO, Mass.—The New England Patriots still aren't crazy about their coach and it will take more than a playoff berth for them to find true happiness, but at least this is a start.

New England, the doormat of the National Football League when it went 2-14 in 1981, underwent a radical change in personnel and philosophy under disciplinarian Ron Meyer. Despite grousing by players who demanded to be traded because they said Meyer was too strict and too aloof, the Patriots wound up with a 5-4 record in the strike-shortened season and became one of eight teams to qualify for the first round of the American Football Conference playoffs January 8-9.

"For the veterans, it's a great feeling to get another shot," said quarterback Steve Grogan, who passed for three touchdowns in the 30-19 victory over the Buffalo Bills at Schaefer Stadium January 2. "For the younger players, it's a catalyst. It shows them what it's all about. How we do the rest of the way will greatly influence the future of this team."

The Patriots' immediate future was a playoff date at Miami. Other AFC pairings were Cleveland vs. the Raiders in Los Angeles, the New York Jets at Cincinnati and San Diego at Pittsburgh.

Grogan hit on 20 of 34 passes for 260 yards. He was 12-for-13 in the second half, when the Patriots scored 20 points, and his last pass of the first half was an 11-yard scoring toss to Morris Bradshaw with eight seconds left, lifting the Pats from a 13-3 deficit.

A 33-yard scoring pass from Grogan to Ken Toliver put the Pats ahead, 16-13, and then, after the Bills tied the score on a field goal by Efren Herrera, an interception and 25-yard return to the Buffalo 13 by All-Pro cornerback Mike Haynes set up the winning TD. Tony Collins ran one yard for only the third TD by rushing for the Pats all season. Another Herrera field goal made the score 23-19, but Grogan wrapped up the victory with a two-yard TD pass to Don Hasselbeck midway through the fourth quarter.

Wide receiver Stanley Morgan, who caught seven passes for 141 yards, said the Pats simply put their bickering behind and concentrated on the game. "You have to take that stuff and put it aside," Morgan said. "If you let it bother you, you're not going to be in this league very long and you're not a professional."

In the end, it was the Bills who were bickering. They lost their last three games to finish 4-5 and missed the playoffs for the first time in three years. Running back Joe Cribbs, who rejoined the team after the strike, ending a long contract hold-out, said after the game, "I don't have any future with the Buffalo Bills. This was my last game as a Bill."

Raiders 41, Chargers 34

SAN DIEGO—Both Los Angeles and San Diego already were assured playoff berths, so this was a game to determine the warm-field advantage in the post-season. The Raiders clinched the home-field edge throughout the playoffs when they wound up with the best record (8-1) in the AFC, and the Chargers (6-3) were forced to bundle up for a trip to Pittsburgh.

The Raiders scored twice on long interception returns and rookie Marcus Allen ran for a pair of touchdowns as Los Angeles completed a two-game sweep of the Chargers this season.

"The adrenalin was flowing on both sides of the ball," said San Diego quarterback Dan Fouts. "The Raiders played well enough to win when it counted, and we didn't."

Each team scored 31 points in the second half and did it in runaway fashion. After safety Mike Davis' 56-yard interception return in the third quarter had helped the Raiders to a 20-3 lead, the Chargers roared back with 24 straight points to go ahead, 27-20, early in the fourth period. Then, the Raiders got three quick touchdowns.

With 5:24 left, Allen ran two yards for a TD to tie the score at 27-27. Third-string cornerback James Davis intercepted a Fouts pass and rambled 52 yards to score, putting the Raiders ahead with 2:41 left. And with 1:37 remaining, Allen clinched the victory on a 22-yard scoring dash.

Allen ran for 126 yards and caught three passes for 40. "There is no question that God blessed us by giving us Marcus Allen," said Raiders Coach Tom Flores.

Despite the big score, the game had a "what if?" play that may have cost the Chargers a TD at the end of the first half. Fouts rifled a pass to tight end Eric Sievers in the end zone, but Raiders linebacker Bob Nelson stripped the ball away. Officials ruled that Sievers did not control the ball, although Chargers Coach Don Coryell complained, "All you have to do is have possession with your feet on the ground. From what I saw, that's how it happened."

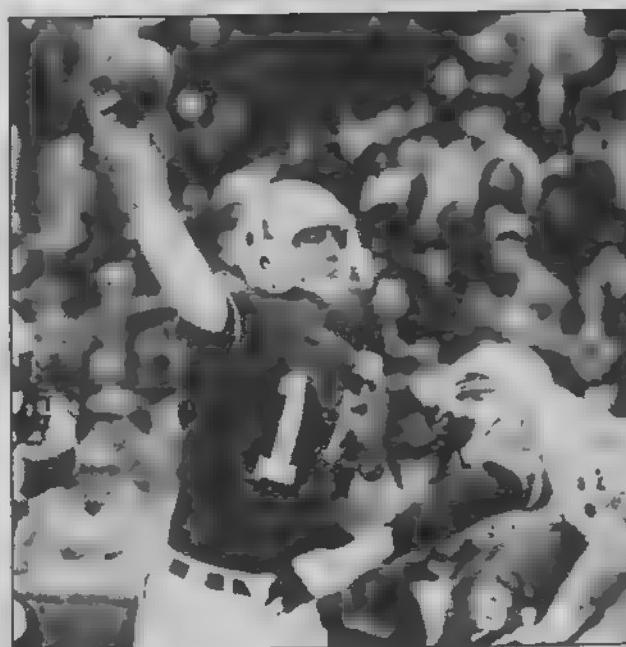
Steelers 37, Browns 21

PITTSBURGH—The offensive blend was almost perfect for Pittsburgh in the game with Cleveland that served as a playoff tuneup for both teams. The Steelers passed for 260 yards and ran for 261 as they kept the Browns winless in 13 years at Three Rivers Stadium.

"We've found our answer in the running game, and that's changed us," said quarterback Terry Bradshaw, who was referring to the way in which the Steelers shook off a stretch of three losses in four games to wind up 6-3.

The Browns, meanwhile, finished at 4-5 but qualified for the playoffs when New England beat Buffalo. The only result that could have kept Cleveland out was a tie between the Patriots

AFC ROUNDUP



Steve Grogan threw for 260 yards and three touchdowns in leading the Patriots to a 30-19 victory over Buffalo.

and Bills.

Bradshaw rifled two touchdown passes and Franco Harris ran for 120 yards, the 42nd time in his career he had hit the 100-yard mark.

The Steelers' defense was stellar as usual, forcing six turnovers. Rookie tight end John Rodgers, a member of the special teams, blocked a punt in the second quarter and returned it 18 yards for a touchdown that put the Steelers ahead for good.

Paul McDonald passed for all three Cleveland scores. Though the Browns had a losing record, Coach Sam Rutigliano said, "We made the playoffs and I don't care how. Ask the teams that didn't make it."

Bengals 35, Oilers 27

HOUSTON—Ken Anderson knocked legendary Sammy Baugh out of the NFL record book when he completed 27 of 31 passes and finished the season with an accuracy mark of 70.55 percent as Cincinnati downed Houston.

In addition to topping Baugh, Anderson hit on 20 passes in a row, wiping out the NFL record of 17 straight completions in one game, shared by Steve DeBerg and Bert Jones.

Although his percentage record came in a nine-game season, compared to the 12-game campaign for Baugh with the Washington Redskins in 1945, Anderson still threw 127 more passes than Slingin' Sammy.

Anderson finished the year with 218 completions in 309 attempts. Baugh was 128-for-182 in '45, a 70.33 percentage.

"I was unaware. I really was," Anderson said when informed that he had beaten Baugh's record. "My mind was on the game."

Anderson passed for 323 yards and two touchdowns as Cincinnati finished 7-2 and saddled Houston (1-8) with its seventh straight loss. The Bengals' receivers helped Anderson to the record with some brilliant catches, and they also kept him loose.

Asked to compare the passing of Anderson and what he had seen of Baugh in films, second-year receiver Cris Collinsworth joked of the 33-year-old Anderson, "Ask Ken. I think they played together."

Baugh, 68, contacted at his ranch in Rotan, Tex., said he was surprised his record had stood for 37 years. "You know, they've got so many good quarterbacks today and everything favors the passing game, I'll be surprised if Kenny's new record isn't broken soon," he said.

Anderson's only incompleteness in his first 23 passes was a perfect throw that fullback Pete Johnson dropped in the first quarter. The 20th straight completion came in the third period.

Dolphins 34, Colts 7

BALTIMORE—Miami Coach Don Shula wanted to accomplish two things in the season finale against Baltimore: clinch a home site in the playoffs and improve the Dolphins' passing attack.

Behind David Woodley's three touchdown passes, the Dolphins crushed the winless Colts before a Memorial Stadium turnout of 19,073.

"We felt we had to get the passing game back into our offense," Shula said. "We had become very run-oriented, just handing the ball to (fullback) Andra Franklin the last few games."

Woodley was 14-for-22 passing for 239 yards, his only 200-yard

day of the season. His scoring passes went for 11 yards to Nat Moore, 34 yards to Jimmy Cefalo and four yards to Bruce Hardy.

The loss left Baltimore Coach Frank Kush with an 0-8-1 record in his first season. "From the second half on, it was a pathetic situation," he said. "Truthfully, I am glad it (the season) is over."

Chiefs 37, Jets 13

KANSAS CITY—"I've always said I wanted to go out on a winning note," said Kansas City center Jack Rudnay, winding up his 13th season in the NFL. "If I couldn't have a winning season, then I could have a winning game."

Rudnay got that, all right, as the Chiefs blasted playoff-bound New York. And Rudnay had a high old time toying with Mark Gastineau, the animated defensive end who is the leader of the Jets' Sack Exchange.

With the right side of the Sack Exchange (Joe Klecko and Marty Lyons) out with injuries, the Chiefs knew they would have to derail Gastineau's pass rush. Enter Rudnay, who knows how to handle the ball to confuse high-strung defensive linemen.

"That was all Jack," said Chiefs guard Bob Simmons, grinning. "He squeezes the ball. He's the best in the league at that."

Corrected Rudnay, "I don't move the ball, but I might flex my muscles a little bit. Combine that with the voice inflection of the quarterback and, well . . . let's say there are some defensive linemen who got a little too eager."

Gastineau jumped offside three times, but the Chiefs took only one penalty. On the other two plays, Bill Kenney threw completions for first downs.

Gastineau made only one tackle all day and got no sacks. Kenney passed for three touchdowns, Nick Lowery drilled three field goals and linebacker Thomas Howard and cornerback Gary Green combined for a 47-yard interception return for a TD.

The only damper for the Chiefs was the crowd of 11,902, smallest in the 11-year history of 78,000-seat Arrowhead Stadium.

Seahawks 13, Broncos 11

SEATTLE—Time and again, the Seattle offense would drive into scoring range, only to be stymied by the Denver defense. Then, the Seahawks' defense would throttle the Broncos.

Late in the third quarter, Mike McCormack, Seattle's interim coach, decided to replace quarterback Jim Zorn with Dave Krieg, who hadn't played in six games.

"I thought he could win a ball game for us," said McCormack, and Krieg did just that. He completed 12 of 18 passes for 142 yards and took the Seahawks 87 yards for the winning touchdown. The score came on a 19-yard pass from Krieg to Roger Carr with 47 seconds remaining.

The Seahawks burned 1:35 off the clock on their 10-play drive as Krieg completed several short lobs and a 44-yard bomb to fullback Dan Doernink that carried to the Denver 19.

"Our last drive, with no timeouts left, was a highlight," said McCormack.

Mark Herrmann, making his starting debut for Denver, completed 18 of 32 passes 188 yards. He scored the Broncos' TD on a six-yard run. Denver's other points came on a pair of safeties, when running back Theotis Brown and then Krieg were tackled in the end zone.

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NFL SUMMARIES

Bills-Dolphins

MONDAY DECEMBER 27

SCORE BY PERIODS

| | | | | |
|---------|----|---|----|------|
| Buffalo | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0-10 |
| Miami | 0 | 7 | 13 | 7-27 |

SCORING

Buffalo—Cribbs 62 run (Herrera kick).
Buffalo—Field goal Herrera 33.
Miami—Nathan 1 run (von Schamann kick).
Miami—Field goal von Schamann 35.
Miami—Franklin 2 run (von Schamann kick).
Miami—Field goal von Schamann 30.
Miami—Franklin 6 run (von Schamann kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Buffalo | Miami |
|--------------------|---------|--------|
| First downs | 17 | 17 |
| Rushes-Yards | 28-138 | 38-161 |
| Passing yards | 163 | 81 |
| Sacks by-Yards | 1-7 | 4-36 |
| Return yards | 106 | 82 |
| Passes | 21-33-2 | 7-18-1 |
| Punts | 4-40-5 | 5-46-0 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 2-2 | 3-2 |
| Penalties-Yards | 12-97 | 7-60 |
| Time of possession | 28.01 | 31.59 |
| Attendance | 73,924 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Buffalo, Cribbs 19-108, Leaks 6-21, Kofler 1-9, Moore 2-0, Miami, Nathan 9-48, Franklin 21-62, Woodley 3-17, Harris 1-13, Diana 4-21. Passing—Buffalo, Ferguson 21-33-2-199, Miami, Woodley 7-18-1-88. Receiving—Buffalo, Lewis 4-60, Cribbs 4-36, Brammer 3-22, Piccone 4-32, Barnett 2-11, Butler 2-23, Holt 1-7, Moore 1-8, Miami, Nathan 2-15, Harris 1-9, Cefalo 2-40, Moore 2-24. Kickoff Returns—Buffalo, Mosley 3-75, Holt 1-17, Miami, Walker 2-61. Punt Returns—Buffalo, Holt 4-14; Miami, Vigorito 1-0. Interceptions—Buffalo, Freeman 1-0, Miami, Walker 1-1, L Blackwood 1-20. Punting—Buffalo, Cater 4-40-5; Miami, Orosz 5-46-0. Field Goals—Buffalo, Herrera 1-2; Miami, von Schamann 2-2.

Falcons-Saints

JANUARY 2

SCORE BY PERIODS

| | | | | |
|-------------|---|----|---|-------|
| Atlanta | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0-6 |
| New Orleans | 0 | 14 | 0 | 21-35 |

SCORING

New Orleans—Wilson 1 run (Andersen kick). Atlanta—Field goal Luckhurst 40. New Orleans—Duckett 11 pass from Stabler (Andersen kick). Atlanta—Field goal Luckhurst 29. New Orleans—Hurley 39 pass from Erxleben (Andersen kick). New Orleans—Wilson 17 run (Andersen kick). New Orleans—Wilson 4 run (Andersen kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Atlanta | New Orleans |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|
| First downs | 16 | 32 |
| Rushes-Yards | 25-80 | 37-152 |
| Passing yards | 168 | 310 |
| Sacks by-Yards | 0-0 | 4-20 |
| Return yards | 69 | 72 |
| Passes | 16-24-1 | 25-36-2 |
| Punts | 5-45-6 | 0-0 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 2-1 | 1-1 |
| Penalties-Yards | 6-61 | 6-41 |
| Time of possession | 26.17 | 33.43 |
| Attendance | 47,336 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Atlanta, Andrews 14-57, Cain 4-14, Riggs 6-9, Bartkowski 1-0, New Orleans, Wilson 22-33, Gajan 11-63, Holmes 2-8, Merkens 2-minus 2. Passing—Atlanta, Bartkowski 14-21-1-162, Moroski 2-3-0-26, New Orleans, Stabler 24-35-2-271, Erxleben 1-0-39. Receiving—Atlanta, Jackson 2-42, Miller 4-39, Riggs 3-25, Jenkins 2-24, Andrews 2-12, Hodges 1-20, Bailey 1-15, Robinson 1-11, New Orleans, Wilson 11-89, Groth 4-63, Duckett 4-38, Scott 2-21, Thompson 2-29, Hardy 1-31, Hurley 1-39. Kickoff Returns—Atlanta, R Brown 3-69, Gaison 1-0, New Orleans, Thompson 2-43. Punt Returns—Atlanta, none, New Orleans, Groth 2-31. Interceptions—Atlanta, Gaison 1-0, Butler 1-0, New Orleans, Winston 1-minus 2. Punting—Atlanta, Roberts 5-45-6, New Orleans, Andersen 0-1.

Cardinals-Redskins

JANUARY 2

SCORE BY PERIODS

| | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|------|
| St. Louis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0-0 |
| Washington | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7-28 |

SCORING

New York—Field goal Leahy 30. New York—Field goal Leahy 20. Kansas City—Carson 28 pass from Kenney (Lowery kick).

HOW THEY STAND

American Conference

THROUGH GAMES OF JANUARY 2

| Club | W. | L. | T. | Pct. | Pts. | Opp. |
|-------------------|----|----|----|------|------|------|
| xLos Ang. Raiders | 8 | 1 | 0 | .889 | 260 | 200 |
| xMiami | 7 | 2 | 0 | .778 | 198 | 131 |
| xCincinnati | 7 | 2 | 0 | .778 | 232 | 177 |
| xPittsburgh | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 204 | 146 |
| xNew York Jets | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 288 | 221 |
| xNew England | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 | 143 | 157 |
| xCleveland | 4 | 5 | 0 | .444 | 140 | 182 |
| Buffalo | 4 | 5 | 0 | .444 | 150 | 154 |
| Seattle | 4 | 5 | 0 | .444 | 127 | 147 |
| Kansas City | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 176 | 184 |
| Denver | 2 | 7 | 0 | .222 | 148 | 226 |
| Houston | 1 | 8 | 0 | .111 | 136 | 245 |
| Baltimore | 0 | 8 | 1 | .056 | 113 | 236 |

x—Clinched playoff berth.
(Top eight teams in each conference qualify for playoffs.)

SCORING

Washington—Walker 25 pass from Theismann (Moseley kick). Washington—Didier 2 pass from Theismann (Moseley kick). Washington—Harmon 1 run (Moseley kick). Washington—Washington 8 pass from Theismann (Moseley kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

| | St. Louis | Washington |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|
| First downs | 20-41 | 39-129 |
| Rushes-Yards | 5-155 | 124 |
| Passing yards | 5-33 | 5-44 |
| Sacks by-Yards | 112 | 77 |
| Return yards | 18-34-3 | 16-25-0 |
| Passes | 10-41-3 | 10-39-2 |
| Punts | 2-2 | 0-0 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 13-13 | 4-30 |
| Penalties-Yards | 25-10 | 34-50 |
| Time of possession | | |
| Attendance | 52,554 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—St. Louis, Anderson 10-31, Morris 5-7, Mitchell 2-5, Lomax 3-minus 2, Washington, Washington 13-45, Harmon 21-63 Wonsley 3-13, Theismann 2-8.

Passing—St. Louis, Lomax 18-34-3-199; Washington, Theismann 16-25-0-157.

Receiving—St. Louis, Tilley 4-65, Green 3-58, Anderson 1-6, Mitchell 2-23, Morris 1-minus 1, Harrell 4-25, Shumann 2-18, Thompson 1-5; Washington, Washington 2-5, Brown 3-28, Warren 2-27, Harmon 3-16, Glauquint 1-36, Didier 1-2, Walker 3-37, Garrett 1-6.

Kickoff Returns—St. Louis, Lewis 18-34-3-199; Washington, Theismann 16-25-0-157.

Punt Returns—St. Louis, Mitchell 8-19, Washington, Glauquint 5-34.

Interceptions—Washington, Dean 1-19, McDaniel 1-7, White 1-4

Punting—St. Louis, Birdsong 10-41-3; Washington, Hayes 10-39-2.

Field Goals—St. Louis, none attempted; Washington, Moseley 0-2.

Broncos-Seahawks

JANUARY 2

SCORE BY PERIODS

| | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|-------|
| Denver | 2 | 0 | 7 | 2-11 |
| Seattle | 3 | 0 | 0 | 10-13 |

SCORING

Seattle—Field goal N. Johnson 22. Denver—Safety, T. Brown tackled in end zone. Denver—Herrmann 6 run (Karin kick). Seattle—Field goal N. Johnson 34. Denver—Safety, Krieg tackled in end zone. Seattle—Carr 19 pass from Krieg (N. Johnson kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Denver | Seattle |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| First downs | 19 | 18 |
| Rushes-Yards | 40-200 | 31-129 |
| Passing yards | 187 | 239 |
| Sacks by-Yards | 3-13 | 1-1 |
| Return yards | 91 | 63 |
| Passes | 18-33-2 | 22-39-2 |
| Punts | 5-38-8 | 5-40-6 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 3-2 | 3-1 |
| Penalties-Yards | 2-14 | 6-55 |
| Time of possession | 31:48 | 28:12 |
| Attendance | 43,145 | |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Denver, Winder 13-67, Willhite 4-52, Parros 12-52, Poole 6-16, Herrmann 2-8, Preston 3-5; Seattle, Doornik 20-70, Zorn 1-28, Smith 5-17, Hughes 4-18, T. Brown 8-5, Krieg 3-minus 9.

Passing—Denver, Herrmann 18-32-1-188, Willhite 0-1-0; Seattle, Krieg 18-32-1-142, Zorn 9-19-1-78, N. Johnson 1-1-0-27, Lane 0-0-0.

Receiving—Denver, Parros 6-29, Watson 4-40, J. Wright 3-64, Willhite 3-30, Upchurch 3-17, Preston 1-8; Seattle, Doornik 5-67, Smith 4-11, Carr 3-40, Largent 3-36, Johns 2-35, Metzelaars 2-15, Zorn 3-27, Walker 1-10, Tice 1-6.

Kickoff Returns—Denver, Manning 1-11, Willhite 3-44, Seattle, McAfee 2-41.

Punt Returns—Denver, Upchurch 1-18, Willhite 1-10, Seattle, Easley 1-15.

Interceptions—Denver, T. Jackson 1-0

NFL Schedules And Results

1982 results in bold face. † Denotes home games.

| ATLANTA FALCONS | | CLEVELAND BROWNS | | DETROIT LIONS | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Head Coach | Leaman Bennett | Head Coach | Sam Rutigliano | Head Coach | Mike Holmgren |
| Sept. 12 New York Giants | 16 14 | Sept. 12 Seattle | 21 7 | Sept. 12 Green Bay (Mon.)† | 21 14 |
| Sept. 19 LA Raiders† | 14 36 | Sept. 19 Philadelphia† | 21 24 | Sept. 19 Atlanta | 14 16 |
| Nov. 21 LA Rams† | 24 17 | Nov. 21 New England | 10 7 | Sept. 26 Dallas (Mon.)† | 19 27 |
| Nov. 28 St. Louis | 20 23 | Nov. 25 Dallas (Thanksgiving) | 14 31 | Nov. 21 Washington | 17 27 |
| Dec. 5 Denver | 34 27 | Dec. 5 San Diego | 13 30 | Nov. 25 Detroit (Thanksgiving) | 13 6 |
| Dec. 12 New Orleans† | 35 9 | Dec. 12 Cincinnati | 10 23 | Dec. 5 Houston | 17 14 |
| Dec. 19 San Francisco | 17 7 | Dec. 19 Pittsburgh | 10 9 | Dec. 11 Philadelphia (Sat.)† | 23 7 |
| Dec. 26 Green Bay† | 7 36 | Dec. 26 Houston | 10 14 | Dec. 19 Chicago | 14 15 |
| Jan. 2 New Orleans | 6 35 | Jan. 2 Pittsburgh | 21 37 | Dec. 26 St. Louis | 21 24 |

| BALTIMORE COLTS | | DALLAS COWBOYS | | DETROIT LIONS | |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------------------|----------|
| Head Coach | Frank Kush | Head Coach | Tom Landry | Head Coach | Ed Miles |
| Sept. 12 New England† | 13 24 | Sept. 13 Pittsburgh (Mon.)† | 28 36 | Sept. 12 Cincinnati | 4 27 |
| Sept. 19 Miami | 26 24 | Sept. 19 St. Louis | 24 7 | Sept. 19 Seattle | 23 21 |
| Nov. 21 New York Jets | 0 37 | Nov. 21 Tampa Bay† | 14 9 | Nov. 21 New England | 10 24 |
| Nov. 28 Buffalo | 8 29 | Nov. 25 Cleveland (Thurs.)† | 31 14 | Nov. 25 New England | 21 29 |
| Dec. 5 Cincinnati† | 17 20 | Dec. 5 Washington | 24 10 | Dec. 5 New York Giants | 14 37 |
| Dec. 12 Minnesota | 18 13 | Dec. 13 Houston (Mon.) | 37 7 | Dec. 13 Dallas (Mon.)† | 7 37 |
| Dec. 19 Green Bay† (OT) | 20 20 | Dec. 19 New Orleans | 21 7 | Dec. 19 Philadelphia | 14 35 |
| Dec. 26 San Diego | 26 44 | Dec. 26 Philadelphia | 29 24 | Dec. 26 Cleveland | 14 28 |
| Jan. 2 Miami† | 7 34 | Jan. 3 Minnesota (Mon.) | x x | Jan. 2 Cincinnati | 27 25 |

| BUFFALO BILLS | | DENVER BRONCOS | | KANSAS CITY CHIEFS | |
|------------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Head Coach | Chuck Knox | Head Coach | Dan Reeves | Head Coach | Marc Levy |
| Sept. 12 Kansas City† | 14 9 | Sept. 12 San Diego | 3 23 | Sept. 12 Buffalo | 9 14 |
| Sept. 16 Minnesota (Thurs.)† | 23 22 | Sept. 19 San Francisco | 24 21 | Sept. 19 New Orleans | 19 12 |
| Nov. 21 Miami† | 7 9 | Nov. 21 Seattle | 10 17 | Nov. 28 Tampa Bay | 17 27 |
| Nov. 28 Baltimore | 20 8 | Nov. 28 San Diego | 20 30 | Nov. 28 Chicago | 14 28 |
| Dec. 5 Green Bay (M.W.) | 21 33 | Dec. 5 Atlanta | 27 34 | Dec. 5 Miami | 14 25 |
| Dec. 12 Pittsburgh | 13 8 | Dec. 12 L.A. Rams | 27 24 | Dec. 12 Baltimore | 13 10 |
| Dec. 19 Tampa Bay | 23 24 | Dec. 19 Kansas City† | 16 32 | Dec. 19 Detroit | 34 31 |
| Dec. 27 Miami (Mon.) | 10 27 | Dec. 26 L.A. Raiders | 10 27 | Dec. 26 New York Jets† | 14 42 |
| Jan. 2 New England | 19 30 | Jan. 2 Seattle | 11 13 | Jan. 2 Dallas (Mon.)† | 2 2 |

| CHICAGO BEARS | | DETROIT LIONS | | DETROIT RAIDERS | |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|------------|
| Head Coach | Mike Ditka | Head Coach | Marty Clark | Head Coach | Tom Flores |
| Sept. 12 Detroit | 10 17 | Sept. 12 Chicago† | 17 10 | Sept. 12 San Francisco | 22 27 |
| Sept. 19 New Orleans† | 6 18 | Sept. 19 L.A. Rams | 19 14 | Sept. 19 Atlanta | 30 16 |
| Nov. 21 Detroit | 20 17 | Nov. 21 Chicago | 17 20 | Nov. 22 San Diego (Mon.)† | 20 20 |
| Nov. 28 Minnesota | 7 23 | Nov. 25 N.Y. Giants (Thurs.)† | 6 13 | Nov. 28 Cincinnati | 17 31 |
| Dec. 5 New England† | 26 13 | Dec. 6 New York Jets (Mon.)† | 13 20 | Dec. 5 Seattle | 25 23 |
| Dec. 12 Seattle | 14 28 | Dec. 12 Green Bay | 30 18 | Dec. 12 Kansas City | 21 16 |
| Dec. 19 St. Louis† | 7 10 | Dec. 19 Minnesota† | 31 34 | Dec. 19 L.A. Rams (Sat.)† | 27 31 |
| Dec. 26 L.A. Rams | 34 26 | Dec. 26 Tampa Bay | 21 22 | Dec. 26 Denver | 27 19 |
| Jan. 2 Tampa Bay (OT) | 23 26 | Jan. 2 Detroit | 27 24 | Jan. 2 San Diego | 41 24 |

| CINCINNATI BENGALS | | GREEN BAY PACKERS | | LOS ANGELES RAMS | |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Head Coach | Forrest Gregg | Head Coach | Bert Starz | Head Coach | Ray Malavasi |
| Sept. 12 Houston | 27 6 | Sept. 12 L.A. Rams (M.W.)† | 35 23 | Sept. 12 Green Bay (M.W.) | 23 25 |
| Sept. 19 Pittsburgh (OT) | 20 26 | Sept. 20 N.Y. Giants (Mon.) | 27 19 | Sept. 19 Detroit | 14 19 |
| Nov. 21 Philadelphia | 16 14 | Nov. 21 Minnesota (M.W.)† | 26 7 | Nov. 21 Atlanta | 17 34 |
| Nov. 28 L.A. Raiders† | 31 17 | Nov. 28 New York Jets | 13 15 | Nov. 28 Kansas City† | 20 14 |
| Dec. 5 Baltimore | 20 17 | Dec. 5 Buffalo (M.W.)† | 23 21 | Dec. 2 San Francisco (Thurs.)† | 24 30 |
| Dec. 12 Cleveland† | 23 10 | Dec. 12 Detroit | 10 20 | Dec. 12 Denver | 24 27 |
| Dec. 20 San Diego (Mon.) | 34 50 | Dec. 19 Baltimore (OT) | 20 28 | Dec. 19 L.A. Raiders (Sat.) | 31 37 |
| Dec. 26 Seattle | 24 16 | Dec. 26 Atlanta | 30 7 | Dec. 26 Chicago† | 26 34 |
| Jan. 2 Houston | 35 27 | Jan. 2 Detroit | 24 27 | Jan. 2 San Francisco | 21 29 |

| DETROIT LIONS | | DETROIT RAIDERS | | DETROIT RED WINGS | |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Head Coach | Mike Ditka | Head Coach | Marty Clark | Head Coach | Bob Miller |
| Sept. 12 Chicago† | 17 10 | Sept. 12 San Diego | 3 23 | Sept. 12 Dallas (Mon.) | 20 35 |
| Sept. 19 L.A. Rams | 19 14 | Sept. 19 Atlanta | 30 16 | Sept. 19 New York Jets† | 7 31 |
| Nov. 21 Chicago | 17 20 | Nov. 22 San Diego (Mon.)† | 20 20 | Nov. 21 Houston | 7 10 |
| Nov. 28 Minnesota | 7 23 | Nov. 28 Cincinnati | 17 31 | Nov. 28 Boston | 29 21 |
| Dec. 5 New England† | 26 13 | Dec. 5 Seattle | 25 23 | Dec. 5 Chicago | 13 26 |
| Dec. 12 Green Bay | 14 28 | Dec. 12 Kansas City | 21 16 | Dec. 12 L.A. Kings | 3 9 |
| Dec. 19 Minnesota† | 7 10 | Dec. 19 L.A. Rams (Sat.)† | 27 31 | Dec. 19 Detroit | 3 9 |
| Dec. 26 Tampa Bay | 21 22 | Dec. 26 Denver | 27 19 | Dec. 26 Pittsburgh | 14 27 |
| Jan. 2 Green Bay (OT) | 27 24 | Jan. 2 San Diego | 41 24 | Jan. 2 Buffalo | 30 19 |

| DETROIT RAIDERS | | DETROIT RED WINGS | | DETROIT STYLERS | |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Head Coach | Marty Clark | Head Coach | Bob Miller | Head Coach | John McElroy |
| Sept. 12 San Diego | 3 23 | Sept. 12 Green Bay (M.W.) | 23 25 | Sept. 12 Dallas (Mon.) | 36 20 |
| Sept. 19 Atlanta | 30 16 | Sept. 19 Detroit | 14 19 | Sept. 19 Cincinnati† (OT) | 26 20 |
| Nov. 22 San Diego (Mon.)† | 20 20 | Nov. 21 Atlanta | 17 34 | Nov. 21 Houston | 24 10 |
| Nov. 28 Cincinnati | 17 31 | Nov. 28 Kansas City | 20 14 | Nov. 28 Boston | 23 20 |
| Dec. 5 Seattle | 25 23 | Dec. 2 San Francisco (Thurs.)† | 24 30 | Dec. 5 Chicago | 13 26 |
| Dec. 12 Kansas City | 21 16 | Dec. 12 Denver | 10 20 | Dec. 12 L.A. Kings | 3 9 |
| Dec. 19 L.A. Rams (Sat.)† | 27 31 | Dec. 19 Detroit | 7 21 | Dec. 19 Detroit | 12 7 |
| Dec. 26 Denver | 27 19 | Dec. 26 Pittsburgh | 7 21 | Dec. 19 New York Giants† | 10 7 |
| Jan. 2 San Diego | 41 24 | Jan. 2 San Francisco | 21 29 | Dec. 26 New Orleans | 34 21 |

| DETROIT RED WINGS | | DETROIT STYLERS | | DETROIT STYLERS | |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Head Coach | Bob Miller | Head Coach | John McElroy | Head Coach | John McElroy |
| Sept. 12 Dallas (Mon.) | 36 20 | Sept. 12 Green Bay (M.W.) | 23 25 | Sept. 12 New York Giants | 37 34 |
| Sept. 19 Cincinnati† (OT) | 26 20 | Sept. 19 Detroit | 14 19 | Sept. 19 Tampa Bay | 21 13 |
| Nov. 21 Houston | 24 10 | Nov. 21 Atlanta | 17 34 | Nov. 21 St. Louis | 27 17 |
| Nov. 28 Boston | 23 20 | Nov. 28 Kansas City | 20 14 | Nov. 28 Philadelphia | 1 |

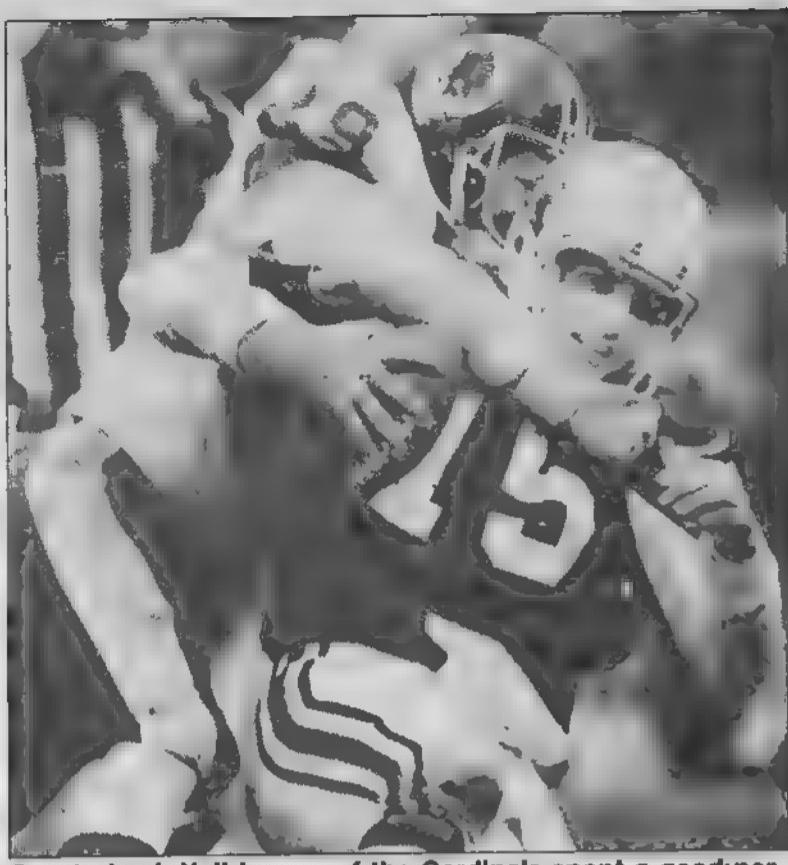
NFL STATISTICS

Through games of January 2
*Monday, January 3 participants

†Player no longer with team
‡Player on injured reserve

Compiled by Howard Balzer and John Hadley

AMERICAN CONFERENCE



Quarterback Nell Lomax of the Cardinals spent a good portion of January 2 with Redskins on his back.

NFL Summaries

(Continued From Page 22)

Bengals-Oilers

JANUARY 2 SCORE BY PERIODS

| | Cincinnati | Houston |
|-----|------------|---------|
| 1st | 14 | 7 |
| 2nd | 7 | 7-35 |

SCORING

Cincinnati—Ross 1 pass from Anderson (Breech kick).
Houston—Field goal Kemp 35.
Cincinnati—A Griffin 10 run (Breech kick).
Houston—Craft 9 run (Kemp kick).
Houston—Field goal Kemp 37.
Cincinnati—Johnson 1 run (Breech kick).
Cincinnati—Curris 44 pass from Anderson (Breech kick).
Houston—Casper 5 pass from Nielsen (Kemp kick).
Cincinnati—Alexander 4 run (Breech kick).
Houston—Craft 4 run (Kemp kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Cincinnati | Houston |
|--------------------|------------|---------|
| First downs | 29 | 20 |
| Rushes-Yards | 42-147 | 24-112 |
| Passing yards | 310 | 222 |
| Sacks by-Yards | 1-19 | 2-19 |
| Return yards | 114 | 132 |
| Passes | 28-32-0 | 22-33-1 |
| Punts | 1-42-0 | 3-43-3 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 3-2 | 1-1 |
| Penalties-Yards | 5-49 | 5-35 |
| Time of possession | 38:07 | 21:53 |
| Attendance | 26,522 | |

| | Miami | Baltimore |
|--------------------|-------|-----------|
| Fumbles-Lost | 2-2 | 4-3 |
| Penalties-Yards | 2-10 | 3-30 |
| Time of possession | 28:44 | 31:16 |

Attendance—19,073.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Miami, Franklin 19-46, Woodley 1-2, Nathan 7-44, Bernier 9-15, Vigorito 1-6, Diana 3-6, Hill 1-13; Baltimore, Dickey 8-34, McMillan 15-67, Franklin 6-31, Dixon 5-21, Pagel 1-1, Schlichter 1-3. Passing—Miami, Woodley 14-22-0-239, Nathan 0-1-0, Jensen 0-1-0-0, Baltimore, Pagel 11-23-1-135, Schlichter 5-10-1-29. Receiving—Miami, Nathan 3-18, Harris 4-83, Moore 2-25, Vigorito 2-40, Cefalo 2-69, Hardy 1-4, Baltimore, Dickey 3-50, McColl 1-4, Butler 2-29, Franklin 2-11, McMillan 1-11, Dixon 4-30, Sherman 3-29. Kickoff Returns—Miami, Walker 2-48, Baltimore, Dixon 6-104, Bouza 1-12. Punt Returns—Miami, Vigorito 2-21, Baltimore, Bouza 1-0. Interceptions—Miami, L. Blackwood 1-21, McNeal 1-23. Punting—Miami, Orosz 3-36.0; Baltimore, Stark 3-46.0. Field Goals—Miami, von Schamann 2-2, Baltimore, Miller 0-3.

Rams-49ers

JANUARY 2 SCORE BY PERIODS

| | Los Angeles Rams | 7 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 21 |
|---------------|------------------|----|---|---|---|----|
| San Francisco | 7 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 |

SCORING

San Francisco—McLemore 93 punt return (Wersching kick). Los Angeles—Tyler 3 pass from Ferragamo (Lansford kick). San Francisco—Wilson 19 pass from Montana (Wersching kick).

San Francisco—Nehemiah 29 pass from Montana (kick failed).

Los Angeles—Tyler 1 run (Lansford kick). Los Angeles—Farmer 42 pass from Ferragamo (Lansford kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Los Angeles | San Francisco |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|
| First downs | 17 | 18 |
| Rushes-Yards | 25-147 | 24-124 |
| Passing yards | 227 | 209 |
| Sacks by-Yards | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Return yards | 87 | 209 |
| Passes | 23-35-0 | 20-38-1 |
| Punts | 8-42-5 | 6-31-2 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 3-0 | 0-0 |
| Penalties-Yards | 10-88 | 3-30 |
| Time of possession | 31:27 | 28:33 |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Los Angeles, Tyler 15-98, Guman 8-40, Thomas 1-10, Ferragamo 1-minus 1, San Francisco, Moore 11-49, Ring 11-49, Montana 1-21, Cooper 1-5. Passing—Los Angeles, Ferragamo 23-35-0-227, San Francisco, Montana 20-38-1-200. Receiving—Los Angeles, Guman 8-53, Dennard 4-52, Tyler 4-11, Farmer 3-97, Barber 2-7, J. Thomas 2-6, San Francisco, Moore 5-25, D. Clark 4-54, Ring 3-11, Francis 2-36, Wilson 2-24, Cooper 2-9, Nehemiah 1-29, Young 1-12. Kickoff Returns—Los Angeles, Redden 1-14, Sully 1-10, D. Hill 2-42; San Francisco, Lawrence 2-41, McLemore 2-31. Punt Returns—Los Angeles, Irvin 4-21, San Francisco, Hicks 1-12, McLemore 4-125. Interceptions—Los Angeles, P. Thomas 1-0. Punting—Los Angeles, Misko 8-42.5, San Francisco, Miller 6-31.2. Field Goals—Los Angeles, none attempted; San Francisco, Wersching 0-1.

Dolphins-Colts

JANUARY 2 SCORE BY PERIODS

| | Miami | Baltimore |
|-----|-------|-----------|
| 1st | 10 | 7 |
| 2nd | 17 | 0-34 |
| 3rd | 0 | 7 |
| 4th | 0 | 0-7 |

SCORING

Miami—Moore 11 pass from Woodley (von Schamann kick). Miami—Field goal von Schamann 34. Baltimore—Dixon 11 run (Miller kick). Miami—Cefalo 34 pass from Woodley (von Schamann kick). Miami—Franklin 1 run (von Schamann kick). Miami—Field goal von Schamann 25. Miami—Hardy 4 pass from Woodley (von Schamann kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

| | Miami | Baltimore |
|----------------|---------|-----------|
| First downs | 22 | 21 |
| Rushes-Yards | 41-132 | 36-157 |
| Passing yards | 239 | 116 |
| Sacks by-Yards | 7-48 | 0-0 |
| Return yards | 113 | 116 |
| Passes | 14-24-0 | 16-33-2 |
| Punts | 3-36-0 | 3-46-0 |

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Los Angeles, Tyler 15-98, Guman 8-40, Thomas 1-10, Ferragamo 1-minus 1, San Francisco, Moore 11-49, Ring 11-49, Montana 1-21, Cooper 1-5. Passing—Los Angeles, Ferragamo 23-35-0-227, San Francisco, Montana 20-38-1-200. Receiving—Los Angeles, Guman 8-53, Dennard 4-52, Tyler 4-11, Farmer 3-97, Barber 2-7, J. Thomas 2-6, San Francisco, Moore 5-25, D. Clark 4-54, Ring 3-11, Francis 2-36, Wilson 2-24, Cooper 2-9, Nehemiah 1-29, Young 1-12. Kickoff Returns—Los Angeles, Redden 1-14, Sully 1-10, D. Hill 2-42; San Francisco, Lawrence 2-41, McLemore 2-31. Punt Returns—Los Angeles, Irvin 4-21, San Francisco, Hicks 1-12, McLemore 4-125. Interceptions—Los Angeles, P. Thomas 1-0. Punting—Los Angeles, Misko 8-42.5, San Francisco, Miller 6-31.2. Field Goals—Los Angeles, none attempted; San Francisco, Wersching 0-1.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

PASSING (Minimum of 108 Attempts)

| | All | Comp. | Pct. | Yards | Avg. Yd. | Td. | Pct. | Int. | Rating |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|------|-------|----------|-----|------|------|--------|
| Anderson, Cincinnati | 309 | 218 | 70.6 | 2495 | 8.07 | 12 | 3.9 | 2.9 | 95.5 |
| Fouts, San Diego | 330 | 204 | 61.8 | 2889 | 8.75 | 17 | 5.2 | 11 | 93.6 |
| Todd, New York | 261 | 153 | 58.6 | 1961 | 7.51 | 17 | 5.4 | 8 | 87.3 |
| Grogan, New England | 122 | 66 | 54.1 | 930 | 7.62 | 7 | 5.7 | 4 | 84.2 |
| Bradshaw, Pittsburgh | 240 | 127 | 52.9 | 1768 | 7.37 | 17 | 7.1 | 11 | 81.4 |
| Plunkett, Los Angeles | 261 | 152 | 58.2 | 2035 | 7.80 | 14 | 5.4 | 15 | 77.3 |
| Kenney, Kansas City | 169 | 95 | 56.2 | 1192 | 7.05 | 7 | 4.1 | 6 | 77.0 |
| DeBerg, Denver | 223 | 131 | 58.7 | 1405 | 6.30 | 7 | 3.1 | 11 | 67.2 |
| Woodley, Miami | 179 | 98 | 54.7 | 1080 | 6.03 | 5 | 2.8 | 8 | 63.4 |
| Pager, Baltimore | 221 | 111 | 50.2 | 1281 | 5.80 | 5 | 2.3 | 7 | 62.4 |
| Zorn, Seattle | 245 | 126 | 51.4 | 1540 | 6.29 | 7 | 2.9 | 11 | 62.1 |
| Manning, Houston | 132 | 67 | 50.8 | 880 | 6.67 | 6 | 4.5 | 8 | 61.8 |
| Sipe, Cleveland | 185 | 101 | 54.6 | 1064 | 5.75 | 4 | 2.2 | 8 | 61.0 |
| McDonald, Cleveland | 149 | 73 | 49.0 | 993 | 6.66 | 5 | 3.4 | 8 | 59.5 |
| Nelsen, Houston | 161 | 77 | 47.8 | 1005 | 6.24 | 6 | 3.7 | 8 | 59.4 |
| Ferguson, Buffalo | 264 | 144 | 54.5 | 1597 | 6.05 | 7 | 2.7 | 16 | 56.3 |

SCORING—TOUCHDOWNS

| | Tot. | Rush. | Pass. | Ret. | Pts. |
|------------------------|------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Allen, Los Angeles | 14 | 11 | 3 | 0 | 84 |
| Chandler, San Diego | 9 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 54 |
| Muncie, San Diego | 9 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 54 |
| Franklin, Miami | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| Johnson, Cincinnati | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| McNeil, New York | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 42 |
| Stallworth, Pittsburgh | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 42 |

George: Have-Not Can't Get Elway

BUFFALO—George Steinbrenner peered down from his private box high atop Tampa Stadium, watching the Tampa Bay Buccaneers make their late bid for the playoffs.

His guests included Ray Graves, retired head coach at Florida, and Steve Spurrier, new head coach of the Tampa Bay Bandits of the USFL.

It's a mistake to think of George as out of his element in a football setting. He was a football guy long before he bought the New York Yankees.

It was 25 years ago that Steinbrenner was an assistant coach on Lou Saban's staff at Northwestern. Later, he had a long association with Jack Mollenkopf at Purdue. He was a skilled recruiter. He knows the game and he knows football talent.

Which is why his pursuit of John Elway is so interesting.

Steinbrenner holds the baseball rights to Elway, who some pro football scouts think may be the greatest passer of all time. Whoever drafts Elway in the NFL will have to go to the financial mat with Mr. Steinbrenner, whose baseball people tell him that Elway, who spent the summer playing for the Yankees'



By
LARRY FELSER

New York-Penn League farm team in Oneonta, has the goods.

Let's say Steinbrenner was a detached observer in the battle for Elway, that he had the information available to him now. How would this detached observer list the pros and cons for football and baseball in relation to Elway?

"The first thing football should do, if it's smart," says Steinbrenner, "is trade his rights to a contender."

"It would be a mistake for a team like Baltimore to draft him, and the Colts probably wouldn't do that now since they are developing a young quarterback (Mike Pagan).

"But if the team that is in position to draft Elway is involved in a rebuilding program, it should make the most advantageous deal it can."

"The smartest thing would be to trade his rights to, say, a team like the Miami Dolphins."

See, George knows what is going on in football.

The Dolphins currently operate with a hybrid quarterback—part David Woodley, part Don Strock. It's a makeshift situation, far from ideal. Can you imagine what Don Shula could do with a passer such as Elway?

"Elway has carried the program at Stanford since he's been there," pointed out Steinbrenner. "He's had enough of that type pressure. Playing with a team that is rebuilding around him, where he is the one central figure, would be immense pressure."

"I saw it happen with Mike Phipps. I saw it happen earlier with Lenny Dawson."

"Look at what Archie Manning went through in New Or-

leans. Elway might go through something similar unless he gets with an NFL team that can be a contender."

If Elway wasn't a quarterback, and a renowned one, there might be no contest at all. Baseball offers the potential of enormous salaries and a career that might stretch 15 years or longer, along with serious money.

But pro quarterbacks often play into their late 30s now and the NFL pays serious money to high-caliber passers.

If Elway were a running back, or even a wide receiver, football could forget it. Running backs often are finished before age 30. John Brockington is an example. Earl Campbell, judging from his recent decline, may be another example.

With Elway, it's different, and Steinbrenner knows it.

"With the right team, he'll probably be offered \$350 to \$400," said Steinbrenner.

He means a salary of \$350,000 to \$400,000, which would put Elway on an immediate par with 10-year starting quarterbacks like Ron Jaworski of Philadelphia and Joe Ferguson of Buffalo.

"If it's that, then we'll battle," said George, "because we feel eventually that he could be a star in New York."

"We think it would take him three more years in the minor leagues, but that would be good for him. He wouldn't be arriving in a pressure situation."

Steinbrenner seems to be relishing the prospect of this battle. If a deal isn't made to send Elway's rights to an NFL contender, George probably will be disappointed. It might be too easy for him to sign Elway away.

Redskins

(Continued From Page 3)

without an interception. His passing accuracy is crucial for the Redskins. They aren't strong enough to recover from too many interceptions and, as long as Joe Washington remains a reserve, they aren't quick enough in the backfield to mount sustained ground drives. They need a mixture of the run and pass, with Theismann picking up essential first downs on third-down throws.

"The one thing about this team is that it can hurt you in a lot of ways, which makes us difficult to defend," Theismann said. "We have so much motion and so many formations that defenses have trouble preparing for us. They never know what we are going to throw at them. For me, it's like being a kid with a bunch of new toys. You don't know which one to play with next."

The Redskins have arrived ahead of the master plan. The 1982 season was supposed to be another transition year, when Washington hoped to be competitive until it received a transfusion of much needed talent from the 1983 draft.

Instead, the Redskins have accomplished perhaps the most difficult feat in pro sports. They have undergone a major roster change and still won. Of the current 49-man roster, only 17

players, and 11 of 22 starters, were on Pardee's 1980 team. Pardee's roster contained four drafted players; this year's has 16. But there are only five No. 1 picks on the squad, and just two of them were originally made by the Redskins. Pardee's last team had 13 players 30 or older, this one has nine (only five start).

Even though five players made this year's NFC Pro Bowl team, the Redskins' largest all-star contingent in a decade, Gibbs is the first to agree he does not have overwhelming talent, although the club is stronger than even he will admit.

"The players learned sometime early on this season that if they keep plugging away, good things would happen," Gibbs said. "Nothing has come easy. They have to scratch and scramble every week, but they play very hard. I've never seen a team play near its potential every week as well as this one does. Now they believe in themselves, that they can win. They have confidence, they aren't running scared."

It's helped that the players increased their strength through a revised off-season weightlifting program. It's helped that the special teams, built around Pro Bowlers Moseley and kick returner Mike Nelms, once more are among the league's best. And it's helped that the Redskins' defense, plagued last year by injuries and inexperience, has undergone a startling change.

While the Washington offense struggled in the weeks after the end of the strike, the defense has become increasingly more competent, although defensive coordinator Richie Petitbon calls his unit's play "the best-kept secret in the league."

But that defense now is among the conference's best. The Redskins held the Giants and New Orleans Saints to less than 200 total yards on back-to-back weekends, the first time they've done that since 1972. Only one running back has gained more than 100 yards against them all season. And through the first eight games, only two opponents had scored more than 17 points.

Petitbon, the former All-Pro safety, preached increased aggressiveness to his players from the first day of camp. They hit much harder now, led by strong safety Tony Peters, who made the Pro Bowl for the first time in his eight-year career. Safety Mark Murphy and middle linebacker Neal Olkewicz, both former free agents, are the leading tacklers.

This mostly young, still-learning Redskins team should be much better and more dominating in the future. That's when Gibbs expects the Redskins to get recognition, not doubts.

"There is no way I would have thought this would happen to us this year. I'm as surprised as anyone," he said. "But you have to earn your way into the upper echelons of any profession. You have to go through a period of working your way up. It takes time."

"That's what we are doing and we want to be there every year. Sooner or later, people have to say, 'These guys have talent, they have some players.' That's when we'll know we have arrived."

Pro Bowl Teams

ST. LOUIS—Seven members of the Dallas Cowboys and San Diego Chargers highlight the rosters for the NFC-AFC Pro Bowl set for February 6, 1983, in Honolulu. As part of the new collective bargaining agreement, players on the winning team will receive \$10,000 as opposed to \$5,000 for the losers.

Every team in the NFL except the St. Louis Cardinals (a playoff club) and the Baltimore Colts had representatives on the Pro Bowl rosters.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

OFFENSE: Wide receivers—Wes Chandler, San Diego; Cris Collinsworth, Cincinnati; John Stallworth, Pittsburgh; Wesley Walker, New York. Tackles—Anthony Munoz, Cincinnati; Marvin Powell, New York; Larry Brown, Pittsburgh. Guards—John Hannah, New England; Doug Wilkerson, San Diego; Ed Newman, Miami. Centers—Mike Webster, Pittsburgh; Joe Fields, New York. Tight Ends—Kellen Winslow, San Diego; Dan Ross, Cincinnati. Quarterbacks—Dan Fouts, San Diego; Ken Anderson, Cincinnati. Running backs—Marcus Allen, Los Angeles; Freeman McNeil, New York; Andre Franklin, Miami; Chuck Muncie, San Diego.

DEFENSE: Ends—Mark Gastineau, New York; Art Still, Kansas City; Ben Williams, Buffalo. Tackles—Gary Johnson, San Diego; Fred Smerlas, Buffalo; Bob Baumhower, Miami. Outside linebackers—Robert Brazile, Houston; Ted Hendricks, Los Angeles; Chip Banks, Cleveland. Middle linebackers—Jack Lambert, Pittsburgh; Randy Gradishar, Denver. Cornerbacks—Lester Hayes, Los Angeles; Mike Haynes, New England; Gary Green, Kansas City. Safeties—Gary Barbaro, Kansas City; Donnie Shell, Pittsburgh; Ken Easley, Seattle.

SPECIALISTS: Punter—Luke Prestridge, Denver. Placekicker—Rolf Benirschke, San Diego. Kick returner—Rick Upchurch, Denver. *Bob Kuechenberg of Miami will replace Newman because of injury.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE: Wide receivers—Dwight Clark, San Francisco; James Lofton, Green Bay; Charlie Brown, Washington; John Jefferson, Green Bay. Tackles—Pat Donovan, Dallas; Mike Kenn, Atlanta; Keith Dorsey, Detroit. Guards—Randy Cross, San Francisco; R.C. Thigpen, Atlanta; Kent Hill, Los Angeles. Centers—Jeff Van Note, Atlanta; Larry McCaffrey, Green Bay. Tight Ends—Jimmie Giles, Tampa Bay; Paul Coffman, Green Bay. Quarterbacks—Joe Theismann, Washington; Danny White, Dallas. Running backs—William Andrews, Atlanta; Tony Dorsett, Dallas; George Rogers, New Orleans; Billy Sims, Detroit.

DEFENSE: Ends—Ed Jones, Dallas; Lee Roy Selmon, Tampa Bay; Dennis Hartson, Philadelphia. Tackles—Doug English, Detroit; Randy White, Dallas; Dan Hampton, Chicago. Outside linebackers—Hugh Green, Tampa Bay; Lawrence Taylor, New York; Mike Blair, Minnesota. Middle linebackers—Harry Carson, New York; Bob Breunig, Dallas. Cornerbacks—Mark Hayes, New York; Everson Walls, Dallas; Ronne Lott, San Francisco. Safeties—Nolan Cromwell, Los Angeles; Tony Peters, Washington; Dwight Hicks, San Francisco.

SPECIALISTS: Punter—Dave Jennings, New York. Placekicker—Mark Moseley, Washington. Kick returner—Mike Nelms, Washington.

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Dorsett Endures Miserable Week

DALLAS—When Dallas Cowboys tailback Tony Dorsett awoke at 2 a.m. December 23 with sharp pains in his chest, he was convinced he was having a heart attack. Immediately, his wife rushed him to a local hospital.

Dorsett's 27-year-old brother, Melvin, died of a heart attack when Dorsett was in the ninth grade. Fear of death at an early age had haunted him ever since.

Only when tests were completed—showing spasms from a back injury suffered in the December 13 Houston game had radiated to his chest—was Dorsett's mind put at ease.

A 24-20 defeat at the hands of the Philadelphia Eagles three days later put a fitting cap on what was a miserable week. Dorsett gained only 69 yards in 24 carries against the Eagles and in post-game comments he questioned Coach Tom Landry's game plan. Dorsett indicated there was a lack of coaching interest in the running game.

"We've put a lot of emphasis on the passing game," said Dorsett. "But we seem to be taking the running game for granted. We've had a tendency lately to put in a lot of new plays during the week, then half of them haven't been used during the game. That may have something to do with the shape of our running game."

"It should be our No. 1 priority. I don't give a damn who we're playing. The coaches have to take it upon themselves to get it going again."

Dorsett was also disappointed with the run-blocking by the offensive line. "You've seen it, you critique it," said Dorsett. "If you're looking for me to criticize my offensive line, you won't get me to do it."

"But you watch on TV and on the sidelines and you've got backs on other teams who are running four or five yards before anybody touches 'em. It's amazing other teams can be successful running sweeps and we can't with the personnel we have."

Dorsett isn't having an awful season. His 592 yards after eight games led the NFC and was second in the league to Freeman McNeil of the New York Jets. Over a 16-game season, Dorsett's 74-yard-per-game average computes to a 1,184-yard season.

But last year he rushed for 1,646 yards.

Landry felt Dorsett's statements were reflections of Dorsett's frustrations over a failure to break a long run. His longest gain prior to the season finale at Minnesota was 19 yards. Defenses are increasing their focus on stopping Dorsett, a fact that explains why Dallas' passing game has been so successful.

"Running is tough everywhere," said Landry. "Some of the plays we were running very well last year haven't been open for us. This year we just haven't gotten him in position to break one."

"He should be frustrated. They all want to break the long ones and do the things they do best and I'm with them. It's not unusual for a guy to be frustrated."

Bunkhouse: While the game against the Eagles was going on, a fire swept through running back coach Al Lavan's home, causing an estimated \$150,000 damage. The fire started when the house was hit by lightning. . . . Dallas scored in the opening period against Philadelphia for the first time since the Pittsburgh opener. Dallas lost both games. . . . Starting guards Howard Richards and Kurt Petersen both were injured on the same play against Philadelphia by teammate Pat Donovan. Richards suffered a badly sprained ankle and was to be replaced by Herb Scott. Scott lost his starting job in training camp when he had knee surgery. Petersen had a knee injury. His backup is second-year man Steve Wright.

KEN SINS



All-Pro Harrison Matches His Idol

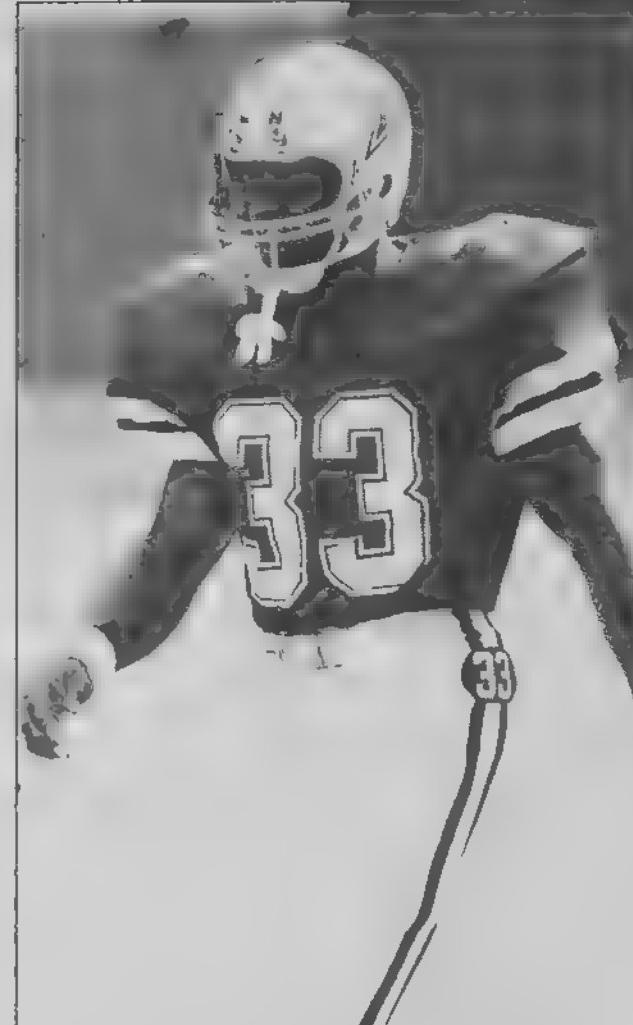
PHILADELPHIA—Dennis Harrison, the defensive end who is the Philadelphia Eagles' only representative on the NFC Pro Bowl squad, has an idol: Claude Humphrey, his former teammate and fellow Tennessean.

"I grew up in Murfreesboro," Harrison said. "Tennessee State's right there (30 miles away in Nashville). Being a black kid, growing up in Murfreesboro, that was what you related to."

Humphrey, the six-time All-Pro who retired this year after finishing his career in Philadelphia, was a star at Tennessee State. He was a first-round draft pick of the Atlanta Falcons and became a standout pass rusher. Then, after five consecutive Pro Bowls, he hurt his knee and had to sit out the 1975 season.

Harrison was playing defensive end at Vanderbilt at the time.

"I remember a newspaper clipping," Harrison said. "I read a clipping the year he got hurt, had the surgery, missed the season. The thing I remember most was that he said all the surgery did was delay things a year, delay showing how good he was. The next year back, Claude made the Pro Bowl."



Tony Dorsett . . . A miserable week.

"All that time, I never really found football to be that interesting. But after that, I found Claude to be interesting."

The papers in Tennessee followed Humphrey's career and every once in a while, Harrison would clip another story, adding to his collection. He said it wasn't a huge collection, but he had a few stories.

And then, in 1979, after a year of temporary retirement, Humphrey went to Philadelphia. Harrison threw away his clippings.

"What it seemed like," Harrison said, "is that, coming face to face with your idol, you didn't want him to know about it. I didn't need the clippings anymore. If I wanted to know something, I could ask him."

Harrison asked, and he learned. And this year, it all came together—physically and mentally. And now, with a league-leading 10½ sacks next to his name on the statistics sheet, Dennis Harrison is an All-Pro himself at defensive end.

"We always knew he had the ability," Coach Dick Vermeil said. "It was just a matter of him becoming an intense, consistent performer."

And now that's he's an All-Pro, Harrison is cautious.

"You can't think you're invincible," he said. "Nobody in this league does. Because as soon as you do, somebody's there to knock your block off. Put you at the level you should be."

Not feeling invincible is one thing. Being confident is another.

"That's the thing Claude taught me," Harrison said. "If you've got confidence in yourself, it doesn't matter what anybody says."

Eagles Nest: The Eagles' 24-20 win over Dallas at Texas Stadium was only their second victory there in 12 tries, and the first since 1979. . . . The victory was keyed by two free agents picked up in 1981. On offense, tackle Frank Giddens, starting in place of the injured Jerry Sisemore, dominated Dallas' Too Tall Jones. On the defensive side, nickel pass rusher Greg Brown sacked Cowboys quarterback Danny White, causing two fumbles, one of which Brown fell on in the end zone.



Wehrli Bows Out With a Flourish

ST. LOUIS—Those who sat in on Roger Wehrli's farewell performance at Busch Stadium were treated to *deja vu*, and the feeling of watching a superb athlete return to glory for one last time before the home crowd was deposited in the memory bank.

Jim Hanifan, coach of the St. Louis Cardinals, is an old softie when it comes to such things, and he formulated a plan to help Roger say goodbye in style.

The 35-year-old cornerback, a seven-time Pro Bowl performer, announced on December 23 that this would be his final season.

"I've had a great career, but it has got to end some time," Wehrli said.

Wehrli had lost his starting job last season when the Cardinals went on a youth kick. He has filled in as a steady reserve ever since, and has been ready to answer the bell whenever injury or shoddy play knocked one of the starters out of the lineup.

The time was right, figured Wehrli, because he had just completed a starting assignment against the Chicago Bears and had turned in a Wehrli-type performance.

"I don't know if it was one of my better games," he said, "but I played as well as I've always played, I think."

There have been those who questioned the wisdom of Hanifan's decision to bench Wehrli, especially in light of the underachievers in the Cardinals' secondary.

The team allowed an average of 206 yards passing per game in 1981, and ranked last in total defense in the National Football Conference. Currently, the Cardinals are allowing opponents an average of 216 passing yards per game, which ranks next to last in the NFC.

Hanifan didn't try to dissuade Wehrli in his decision to retire and, apparently, gave him no encouragement for next season.

"I appreciate and respect Roger's thoughts," said Hanifan, "and I know it had to be a difficult decision. He has had a fantastic career, but now he needs to go into something else."

As hardline as that may sound, Hanifan still had a deep feeling of appreciation for what Wehrli had accomplished in his 14-year career with the Cardinals.

Forty interceptions ranks Wehrli second to Hall of Famer Larry Wilson in the St. Louis record book. Nineteen fumble recoveries ties Wehrli with former linebacker Mark Arneson for a club record. And Wehrli was the only Cardinals player named to the National Football League Team of the Decade for the 1970s.

So a play was designed with Wehrli in mind for the game against the New York Giants on December 26, his last home game at Busch Stadium.

Conditions had to be just right to pull it off. After the Cardinals had advanced to the New York 18 late in the first quarter, Wehrli got the thumbs-up sign from Hanifan as he prepared to hold for a field-goal attempt by Neil O'Donoghue.

"It had to be a gimme," said Hanifan. "If we were out at the 30, they'd be looking for it."

It was fourth and three. The snap came to Wehrli, who placed the ball and grabbed it back as O'Donoghue followed through with his kick to keep the defense thinking field goal. Wehrli snapped to his feet and rolled to his left.

He had the option to throw and rookie tight end Eddie McGill was open. But Wehrli sped to the corner of the end zone, looking as graceful as he once did when he led the nation in punt returns at the University of Missouri in 1968. The crowd of 39,824 rose and applauded a favorite son.

"I was grateful for the opportunity," said Wehrli.

"Irish emotion," said Hanifan of his effort to get Wehrli a big play on his final day.

That December 26 game turned out to be the last of Wehrli's career. He suffered torn ligaments in his right knee in practice three days later and underwent surgery.

"It was just a freak thing," said Wehrli, who had enjoyed a virtually injury-free career.

Post-Cards: Wide receiver Mel Gray also bade farewell to the home crowd on December 26. He had previously announced his intention to retire at the end of the season after his pass-catching streak ended at 121 consecutive games in Philadelphia on December 5. Going into the final regular-season game, Gray had caught 351 passes for 6,644 yards and 45 touchdowns in his 12-year career.

Right guard Joe Bostic underwent an arthroscopic examination on his knee and was ruled out of the final game at Washington, but was given a "50-50" chance of making the Cardinals' first playoff game. . . . Strong safety Lee Nelson was expected to return to the lineup against the Redskins after missing two starts because of a knee injury.



Redskins Demand More Recognition

WASHINGTON—The Washington Redskins received a modest sign of recognition by placing five players on the NFC Pro Bowl squad. But like a little kid who doesn't want to stop with one cookie, they want more, more, more.

"I'm happy for the players who were chosen, but I am also disappointed for the ones who have worked very hard and were left off," said an obviously disgruntled Coach Joe Gibbs. "I'm not going to name the players I thought should have made it, but I hoped we'd do better than we did."

"It definitely is a big improvement from last year when we had only one guy (Mike Nelms). That is a reflection on our team, that we gained some recognition. But the fact we didn't

(Continued on Page 31, Column 1)

Starr Expects New Contract

GREEN BAY—Bart Starr has reaffirmed what he said at the end of last season and the beginning of this one.

He wants to remain as coach of the Green Bay Packers for the next several seasons. Although he does not like talking about it, now that his Packers have made the National Football League playoffs, he expects them to continue to play well enough for him to be rewarded with a contract extension.

Robert Parins, president of the Packers, says it is premature to talk in those terms. Parins, however, has said in the past that he does not want to put Starr in the position of having just one year left on his contract, which will be the case after this season is completed.

The feeling in the Packers' organization since Parins decided to rehire Starr in December, 1981, for two years has been this: Starr would be let go after this season if the Packers did not win, and he would be given some sort of contract extension if they did win.

Going into the January 2 regular-season finale with Detroit, which the Lions won, 27-24, Starr already was assured of his second winning season in his eight years as coach.

Asked if he thought a contract extension would be in order, Starr said: "I would really not even want to get into that right now. I'm not thinking about it. That's not even on my mind."

But asked if his desire to continue as the Packers' coach has increased now that the Packers finally have achieved some success under him, Starr said: "What we have attempted to do here—to turn our program around—has taken us too long. We wanted to build a winning organization.

"We hoped to have accomplished that a long time ago. We didn't. We're behind schedule. So yes, we would like to continue that. This is what our profession and our particular role is all about."

Starr believes that his Packers have accomplished something by making the playoffs this season, even though the season was cut from 16 to nine games because of the 57-day strike by NFL players.

Asked if making the playoffs in this shortened season was as legitimate an achievement as in a normal season, Starr said: "I think you have to say that it is because we're all operating from the same base."

When Starr was hired on Christmas Eve of 1974, he asked Packers fans for patience. Asked if he ever expected that it would take eight seasons of patience, Starr said: "No, it really should not have taken that long. We had an excellent opportunity in 1978, and I think if we'd had the maturity on that team that we have now, we would have got to the playoffs. That's when we should have done it."

Pack Facts: Bill Meyers, Packers assistant offensive line coach, said that No. 1 draft choice guard Ron Hallstrom would play when he goes through a week of practice without making mental mistakes. . . . With Karl Swanke out after more knee surgery, Tim Stokes has become the Packers' left tackle.

CHUCK SALITRO



Jim Brown's NFL career rushing record is on the horizon for the Bears' Walter Payton.



Payton Experiences 'Proudest Moment'

CHICAGO—The day after he put his 10,000th yard behind him, Walter Payton finally ran headlong into the question of whether he can break Jim Brown's NFL record of 12,312 rushing yards. "Probably," he said.

Terse as he was, it was the first time Payton did not juke around the question, the first time he acknowledged that Brown's record is on the horizon.

Payton didn't say so, but Brown's record also appeared to be influencing the change from his onetime aspiration to retire young and healthy. He discussed reenlisting after his contract expires at the end of next season, his ninth.

"If the Bears would have me, I would sign for another year and stay with them. Maybe two more years. Maybe three."

If he stays healthy, Payton probably won't need more than two years beyond his current contract. Through eight games, he trailed Brown by 2,217 yards.

Coach Mike Ditka doesn't seem to have a problem with keeping Payton around long enough to top Brown's record. After the Bears' 34-26 victory over the Los Angeles Rams, Ditka said, "I don't think anybody played any better than Walter."

"The thing that was amazing was he ran with abandon, like he didn't believe anybody could stop him. I've seen him run that way before, but I think it was the first time he had a chance to turn it loose this year. We gave him a little bit of room. It was one of the best performances I've ever seen by a running back."

Payton ran for 104 yards and caught five passes for 102 yards in the victory. It was his first triple-figure rushing game this season and the only time besides Thanksgiving, 1977, when he gained 100 yards both running and receiving.

Ten thousand yards was more than another steppingstone to the top, though. It was more special than the 275-yard game or the 1,852-yard season in 1977 or the five consecutive conference rushing championships or the records and certificates of merit that have felled a small forest.

To Payton, gaining his 10,000th rushing yard was his "proudest moment" because it was more than a professional milestone.

"It's a dream that everyone has to do the best he can do and be the best he can be," Payton said. "I want to be the best father I can to my son (2-year-old Jarrett)."

"I didn't have the fortune of spending Christmas with him, or being with him on his birthday (December 26). And to reach 10,000 yards and to get that ball I reached it with and present it to him when I wasn't with him on his birthday—when he's old enough, he'll understand what it means to me and what he means to me."

Payton hoped to top 10,000 a week before Jarrett's birthday. He went into that game against St. Louis needing 82 yards and ran for only 73. It disappointed him, even though he knew he was a carry or two away from the milestone, because he had dedicated that game to his late father, Eddie.

His father died four years ago December 11, and Payton said, "I wanted to get it for him." He said the Lord must have

had other plans. "When I got it on my son's birthday, I'm sure if my father had been alive, he would have been proud of me," Payton said.

Bear Tracks: The Bears practiced at Tampa for their regular-season finale against the Buccaneers, partly because snow was forecast in Chicago but also because Ditka believed a training camp atmosphere would be a good way for his players to end the season. . . . Kicker Bob Thomas on the NFL's tie-breaker rules for playoff berths: "I don't even think the league office knows how they all work. Maybe if we just show up, they'll say, 'Yeah, hey, they must be one of the eight teams.'" . . . Against the Rams, the Bears abandoned convention and set up Payton's running by passing on nine of 14 first downs in the first half, drawing the Rams into nickel defenses. . . . After allowing Vince Ferragamo to pass for the second highest yardage total in NFL history (509 yards on 30-of-46 passing), the Bears voted for Ferragamo and L.A. guards Kent Hill and Dennis Harrah on their NFC Pro Bowl ballot

KEVIN LAMB



Wilder's Oddity: He Likes Blocking

TAMPA—Not much has held to form in this strike-torn season, but the cream has risen to the top in the statistical honor roll for NFL pass receivers: Clark, Winslow, Collinsworth, Chandler, Wilder . . .

Who?

James Wilder, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' fullback, entered the final week of the semi-season with 47 receptions, second only to San Francisco's Dwight Clark in the NFC.

Wilder needed 10 receptions in the regular-season wrapup against Chicago to snap the Bucs' one-year record, 56, set in 1981 by wide receiver Kevin House.

As Bucs Coach John McKay admits, House's record is not much to brag about. "I think our leader one year had three receptions," McKay said.

In view of the nine-game schedule, though, Wilder's figure is worth noting. Especially since pass-catching may not be his supreme skill.

No, it's not running the ball, either. Wilder likes to block, and the Bucs like to see him do it.

"Right now, Wilder is probably the most valuable player on this team," said quarterback Doug Williams.

McKay is never one to gush about his players, but he cannot restrain himself with Wilder.

"He is 150 percent football player," McKay said. "He'll be downfield after a pass is completed, knocking somebody down. I'm personally very proud of him."

McKay said he did not peer into a crystal ball on draft day in 1981 and get a vision of Missouri's Wilder as the fullback of the future.

"No, we're not smart enough to do that," McKay said. "We just thought he was the best fullback there."

Wilder became a starter about one hour after he arrived at training camp his rookie year.

Although McKay plays traffic cop when his team is on offense, waving players in and out on each play, there are two constants on the field—Wilder and Williams. There are many players who run better, block better and catch better, but few who exceed Wilder at all three.

"Passing happens to be the thing (in the NFL)," said Wilder, painfully shy. "I didn't know the backs would catch so many passes. It's been a good deal for me."

Buc Stoppers: Bill Cope's last-minute field goal that kayoed the Detroit Lions, 23-21, made him the Bucs' career scoring leader. It gave him 129 points, two more than Neil O'Donoghue accumulated as a Buc. . . . Brian Clark, signed to handle kickoffs for the sore-shouldered Cope, lasted two plays. He was waived after boots to the Detroit 12- and 16-yard lines. Clark said he had been offered a contract with the Tampa Bay Bandits of the U.S. Football League.

MIKE TIERNEY



Vikes' Studwell Is a New Man

MINNEAPOLIS—At 6-2 and 225 pounds, Scott Studwell of the Minnesota Vikings looks and acts like a middle linebacker. Even when he walks down the street.

"I'd rather have people say that than say I'm a placekicker," Studwell said. "Not that I have anything against placekickers."

But he enjoys being what he is—a middle linebacker who dishes out bone-jarring hits. That's fine and good, Studwell has learned, as long as he can separate the person from the middle linebacker.

"People tend to project an image for football players," said Studwell, a six-year veteran. "But the public's image is distort-

(Continued on Page 31, Column 1)



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Malavasi Traces Woes to Defense

ANAHEIM—It may be difficult to take a lame-duck coach seriously, but Ray Malavasi probably is right. The Los Angeles Rams don't need John Elway, Stanford's great quarterback, but linebackers, defensive linemen and backs—and in that order.

Malavasi, the team's defensive coordinator before succeeding George Allen five seasons ago, has watched the Rams' defense crumble these past two seasons. Last year a 6-10 Rams' team allowed 351 points—a regular-season record—and this year's version was allowing 28.7 points a game before playing San Francisco January 2. Over a 16-game season, that average would have meant 459 points.

The defense, Malavasi believes, is the biggest reason why the Rams have suffered from big leaditis this year. They have blown leads of 23-0, 14-0, 21-0 and 14-0. Victories in those games would have put them in the playoffs.

Now, thanks to their lowly record, the Rams are in position to draft either first, second or third in April. And Malavasi, who reportedly will be fired by the end of the month, says that Vince Ferragamo and Bert Jones (should he return from his neck injury) are quality, veteran quarterbacks. In a 34-26 loss to the Chicago Bears, Ferragamo threw for 509 yards, second best in NFL history to Norm Van Brocklin's 554 yards for the Rams against the old New York Yanks in 1951.

"I wouldn't take Elway in the draft," Malavasi said. "I think he's a great quarterback, but we have two pro-caliber quarterbacks. That's not one of our needs."

The Rams' linebacking corps lost two starters—middle man Carl Ekern and outside man Jim Youngblood—with knee injuries this season. Malavasi indicated that Youngblood, 32, may have a difficult time rehabilitating himself. Ekern, according to the coaching staff, probably has lost his starting job to Jim Collins, a No. 2 pick in the 1981 draft.

That same year, the Rams drafted Michigan linebacker Mel Owens in the first round, the ninth pick overall. But Owens has been something of a bust, although Malavasi says Owens "is a good nickel linebacker, just not a starter."

Two of the top college linebacking prospects this year are Vernon Maxwell of Arizona State and Billy Ray Smith of Arkansas. Smith is the son of a former Rams defensive end of the same name. Smith's father, however, had his greatest seasons with the Baltimore Colts.

After linebacking, Malavasi would want defensive linemen. Larry Brooks, 32 and an All-Pro when he was healthy, probably won't be back next season. Plus, Jack Youngblood, Brooks' buddy, will be 33 next year and remains hampered by an arthritic left shoulder.

Ram-blings: Owner Georgia Frontiere hasn't made a final decision on when she will tab a replacement for Malavasi, who has one year remaining on a \$225,000-per-year contract. Meanwhile, Malavasi chided reporters by saying, "You guys had me fired a long time ago. I'd like to know who your sources are. I'm not going anywhere unless I'm forced to." . . . Apparently, football administrator Jack Faulkner won't be included in any Frontiere purge, even if she names Ray Nagel, athletic director at the University of Hawaii, as a team vice-president. Nagel, considered an excellent management person, would assume most of John Shaw's finance duties, plus oversee all operations. Shaw, Frontiere's highest-ranking Rams executive, superseded Faulkner on all major contract negotiations. However, Shaw probably devotes more time to Frontiere's other financial holdings than to the Rams. In a sense, Shaw currently holds two full-time jobs.

JOHN CZARNECKI

Miller Playing 'Down and Dirty'

ATLANTA—Junior Miller of the Atlanta Falcons may or may not be the NFL's best blocking tight end. The big thing, though, is that he would like to be.

"That wouldn't be bad one bit," said Miller, who has been carrying home a projector and several cans of film this season.

You wouldn't have seen Miller do that two years ago. That was in 1980, when he told Falcons receivers coach Jimmy Raye that he already knew how to play football. The way he played that year, it appeared that perhaps he did, becoming a Pro Bowl starter as a rookie.

"I said two years ago when everybody was raving about him (Miller) as a rookie," said Raye, "that although the things he did showed up statistically, he was far from being an NFL tight end."

To gauge how far Miller has come since then, listen to what Raye says about Miller's play now, remembering that no one has ever accused Raye of being over-complimentary, his standards being that of a drill sergeant:

"I would have to say that he (Miller) is probably the best



Falcons tight end Junior Miller entered the '82 season with the attitude that he would try to improve himself each week.

pure tight end playing football right now."

But before you can say Kellen Winslow or Dan Ross, let Raye elaborate:

"I'm talking about a guy that's asked to do all the things a tight end does. I'm not talking about lining up in the slot or going in motion. I'm talking about the traditional tight end position. He's as fine a one as there is in football. Since the strike, the guy's really been phenomenal."

In Raye's terminology, the new Miller is willing to "get down and dirty."

"Before, he would never do that. He would play on the periphery and do enough to get by," said Raye. "I think his pride in his own performance has changed. He's become aware of his role with this team and that has helped his overall mental makeup."

In his third NFL season, Miller is at a point where he should be reaching maturity and he seems to realize that.

"I think I began enjoying the game more this year," he said. "My first year it was a game and my second year it was more like a job. This year I came in with the attitude I would try to improve every week. I have a lot of high goals and standards for myself."

He doesn't say he's the NFL's best blocking tight end, as Raye does, "but I do think I'm contributing," said Miller. "I'm working 4-5 seconds every play. I want to be able to go from the snap of the ball until the whistle blows. If I can do that, I feel I can accomplish a lot."

Miller's strength—he's 6-4 and 238 pounds and can bench-press 415 pounds—is such that he can intimidate many an outside linebacker. "And it's gotten to the point where it's fun doing it," he said.

Falcon Flights: Miller caught 46 passes in 1980, nine for touchdowns. In eight games this season, he had 16 catches for 182 yards and one TD. He has won back the confidence of Steve Bartkowski after dropping numerous passes last season. "I came in this year with the attitude I wasn't going to be dropping balls," said Miller.

SAM HEYS



Statistics Believe Wattelet's Play

NEW ORLEANS—By definition, a free safety should be just that: A player in the defensive secondary who is free to follow the flight of the football; a player who roams the secondary, helping wherever help is needed; the center fielder.

Not so, says New Orleans Saints Coach Bum Phillips.

"That's a misnomer. A free safety isn't always free," Phillips said. "If you're playing man (man-for-man) coverage, then he is free. In our scheme, we hardly ever play that coverage."

Maybe that's why Frank Wattelet's defensive statistics—the ones on paper anyway—aren't what they appear to be. Maybe it's a good thing. On paper, they appear to be alarming.

A quick glance at the number might cause one to wonder where the Saints' second-year free safety from Kansas has been roaming.

In eight games, Wattelet had knocked down four passes. That's right, four. And, he had no interceptions.

In contrast, in Washington's 27-10 victory over New Orleans last week, Redskins free safety Mark Murphy defensed five passes and intercepted another.

Don't let Wattelet's statistics fool you, Phillips argues. "Frank's played well. There's nothing wrong with his playing," the coach said.

Besides that, Phillips says, the Saints have played quite a bit in the nickel defense, which cuts Wattelet's responsibilities in half.

"He's supposed to prevent the long one in the nickel, which he has," Phillips said. "He's not going to get many chances to break up plays in that defense."

A year ago, Wattelet was a longshot to make the Saints. He beat the odds, split time with 10-year veteran Tommy Myers and appeared to have the inside track on the starter's position even before Myers underwent shoulder surgery and was lost

for the season during training camp.

"You have to remember," Wattelet said, "that I've only started nine games in my career. That's not even a full season. I'm learning a lot of lessons. Believe it or not, we're a very young secondary."

Wattelet, strong safety Russell Gary and cornerback Johnnie Poe are second-year players. Dave Waymer, the other cornerback, is in his third year. Substitutes Bill Hurley, John Krimm, Rodney Lewis and Kevin Gray are all rookies.

The one statistical area that upsets Wattelet most is interceptions. He doesn't like that goose egg next to his name.

"I've had my hands on three or four that I've dropped. I haven't made the play when I could have," he said.

However, Wattelet has at least been a sure tackler. He has 36 solo tackles and 19 assists.

Still there is that nagging business of pass defense. "I would like to improve my pass defense," he said. "But let's face it, the secondary is a tough place to play in the NFL, especially in this day and age. It's an aerial show to begin with. There's a lot of pressure back there."

Saints Scroll: George Rogers missed the Washington game with a pulled hamstring that he hurt after practice racing with linebacker Rickey Jackson. Rogers was fined by Phillips, who at first refused to comment on how Rogers was hurt. . . . Kenny Stabler also missed the Redskins game, giving former wide receiver-defensive back Guido Merkens his first start in the NFL at quarterback. Merkens completed only nine of 24 passes.

DAVE LAGARDE



Eshmont Award Surprises Clark

SAN FRANCISCO—Wide receiver Dwight Clark was surprised by his latest catch.

"I don't understand why they voted for me," Clark said after it was announced he'd won the 1982 Len Eshmont Award.

Each year San Francisco players vote in a secret ballot for the 49er who "best exemplifies the inspiration and courageous play of Len Eshmont," in memory of a charter 49ers player who died in 1957.

"It's the most prestigious award on this team," Clark acknowledged. "The best part about it is that your teammates vote on it, the same guys you go out with every day as you work your butts off together."

In four seasons, Clark has literally caught on as one of the best receivers in pro football after being an unknown 10th-round draft choice out of Clemson.

He has led the NFL in receiving all season and going into the final game, he had 56 catches for 859 yards, a pace that would give him more than 100 receptions in a normal season.

But statistics aside, he doesn't recognize himself as being particularly inspirational.

"I never think about going out there and being an inspiration," he said. "I don't say, 'I'm going out there to run over somebody and fire these guys up.'"

Still, that's exactly what he did to set up the winning touchdown against the Kansas City Chiefs. He caught an intermediate range pass over the middle, then ran between, over and through several defenders for a dramatic 51-yard gain.

"Maybe they think it's inspirational the way the wide receivers are always fighting downfield and being aggressive," Clark reasoned.

Coach Bill Walsh wasn't surprised by the players' choice.

"He is the ultimate in the NFL performer from the standpoint of getting the most out of his ability," Walsh said. "He is certainly the most dedicated athlete I've worked with, aside from Charlie Joiner (of the San Diego Chargers)."

In fact, when it came time to consider candidates for the Eshmont Award, Clark didn't even realize he was in the running. His top four candidates were quarterback Joe Montana, running back Bill Ring, offensive guard John Ayers and cornerback Ronnie Lott.

"Montana because of his leadership," Clark explained. "Billy Ring because he is always going as hard as he can. Ayers because he is a great lineman who doesn't get any publicity . . . but he's a wild man anyway."

"And when we are in before the games, Ronnie (Lott) is the guy who will say something. I'm not one for speaking in front of people."

Clark then recalled yet another person who inspired him, his Clemson coach, Danny Ford.

"I remember him telling me, 'You're a 10th-round draft choice, so when you get there, don't ever stop running. Show them that you have great stamina. Even if you don't make it as a receiver, you may have a chance at special teams.'"

Niner Nuggets: Clark only laughed when he was asked if he thought the Eshmont Award was something of a jinx. The previous three winners were Paul Hofer, who has since limped into retirement with a bad knee; Archie Reese, who was waived last summer (and is now starting for the Raiders), and Charlie Young, who has been displaced as a starter by Russ Francis. . . . Clark's 104 yards on six catches vs. Kansas City marked his sixth game over 100 yards this season.

FRANK COONEY

NFC East

(Continued From Page 26)

have more than five with the best record in the NFC is an indication that we still have a ways to go as far as gaining the respect we want around the league."

The last time the Redskins had as many as five players on the NFC squad was 1972, when they went to their one and only Super Bowl. Last year, when San Francisco underwent a similar transformation from losers to winners, the 49ers had six selections. So Washington probably shouldn't have been upset about the showing.

Still, the Redskins were angered that the All-Star team didn't include defensive tackle Dave Butz, receiver Art Monk, fullback John Riggins and an offensive lineman, most likely guard Russ Grimm, who grades out as the line's best performer.

The omission of Butz caused the most unhappiness. He had been enjoying the best season of his 10-year career on a defense that has improved dramatically since the year began. But he is not a spectacular pass rusher, so his name doesn't appear among the league leaders in that category. Yet he has been a rock against the run all year.

Monk had a good statistical argument. Entering the final week of the season, only one wide receiver, Dwight Clark, had more receptions in the NFC. And Monk had caught nine more passes (for nine more yards) than Green Bay's better known John Jefferson. But it is difficult to leave a Jefferson off an All-Star team.

The Redskins' other wide receiver, sensational Charlie Brown, was the only first-year player on the squad. Brown has been Washington's flashiest player this season, with eight touchdown receptions and eight catches for 35 yards or more. For a player who, a year ago, was sulking on the injured reserve list with a bad knee, it was a dramatic turnaround.

"I always thought I could perform in this league, but I never have gotten the recognition, even in high school," he said. "When I was at South Carolina State, I was left off the Sheridan Black all-star game squad. I hope those people look back now and see they made a mistake."

Both Neims (third straight time) and kicker Mark Moseley (second selection) already have played in this game. Brown, quarterback Joe Theismann and safety Tony Peters are first-time selections.

Peters, in his ninth season, had the difficult task two years ago of replacing perennial All-Pro Ken Houston. This season,

his aggressive play has set the tone for the rest of the Redskins defense, which was among the most passive in the league in 1981.

Theismann called his selection his most satisfying personal accomplishment. In 1979, when he was the NFC's second-ranked passer, he thought he would be a Pro Bowler, but was left off the team.

"This time, I would be lying if I said I didn't want to make it, but I was not trying to anticipate anything," he said. "I learned my lesson before. But everyone wants to be the best at their position. And when it is voted by your peers, it makes it even more satisfying."

Redskin Rapping: Neims now is the Redskins' career punt return yardage leader, breaking Eddie Brown's record. Neims' statistics have fallen a bit this season, in part because opponents keep kicking away from him or directing punts out of bounds. "If I wanted to pad my stats," Neims said, "I'd let balls roll or call fair catches. But I'm not going to change." . . . Riggins now is the NFL's No. 7 all-time leading rusher. . . . Grimm, who is playing with two stress fractures in his lower left leg, spent time at both tackle and center, as well as guard, against New Orleans because of injuries to teammates.

PAUL ATTNER



Inconsistent Giants Shun Alibi Route

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.—All pro football teams have to put up with distractions. But the New York Giants have had more of their share in 1982: Rob Carpenter's holdout; the 57-day players strike; Coach Ray Perkins' resignation effective after the season and, finally, injuries to key defensive players.

"It has been a very unusual year," Perkins said.

After going 9-7 and making the playoffs for the first time in 18 years in 1981, the Giants finished 4-5 by nipping the Eagles, 26-24, in their last game at Philadelphia on January 2. Following Perkins' December 15 announcement that he will succeed Alabama Coach Bear Bryant in 1983, the Giants lost a pair of heart-breakers: 15-14 at Washington on Mark Moseley's field

goal with four seconds left and 24-21 at St. Louis on Neil Lomax' scoring pass to Roy Green with 27 seconds to play.

"I've known that we have to play pretty much at our peak overall to have a chance to win," Perkins said. "We seem to have a problem getting that done. Last year we did not. This year is not last year. There were only two games all year where we played well enough to be called a football team—the preseason game with the Jets and the Philadelphia game (December 11). We just have not jelled."

Perkins said he would take the blame for the last two defeats, if his players were distracted by his impending departure. (He will be replaced by defensive coordinator Bill Parsons.) But most players said they weren't disturbed.

"We went out at Washington and had one of our best efforts all year," defensive lineman Phil Tabor said. "And the same thing here (in St. Louis). We just came up short."

"The personnel is there," defensive end George Martin said. "Some weeks we go out defensively and show we're almost invincible. Other weeks we look like a high school team could beat us."

The defense was disrupted late in the season by injuries to starting nose guard Bill Neill (knee surgery) and his backup, Jim Burt (back spasms). The Giants were forced to use Tabor, normally an end, and rookie free agent Jerome Sally at nose guard.

The Redskins' John Riggins gained 87 yards and the Cardinals' Ottis Anderson gained 110, mostly cutting back between the tackles. Also, linebacker Lawrence Taylor has been slowed by foot, knee and back injuries.

"I can't say distractions were involved," said quarterback Scott Brunner, who had the best statistics of his career in St. Louis (29-for-51 passing for 326 yards and two TDs). "Last year our defense was healthy. This year, we're getting people hurt. The level of talent in this league is so close that you can't afford to give up any edge."

Giants Jottings: To make a spot for activated Gary Jeter, Burt went on injured reserve and his back went into traction. . . . Butch Woolfolk was upset that Perkins did not start him at St. Louis, although Woolfolk said he felt fine and ran back three kickoffs for a total of 80 yards. He carried the ball four times for 25 and caught two passes for 13. Perkins said he started Joe Morris at halfback because Woolfolk missed practice time with back spasms. Woolfolk said the spasms had subsided two days before the game.

JIM SMITH

NFC Central

(Continued From Page 27)

ed. They lose sight of the fact that we're people, too. We hurt like everybody else, we love like everybody else and we cry like everybody else. We're not invincible."

Studwell didn't begin to realize that until last summer, when he was treated for chemical dependency at the Hazelden Foundation in Center City, Minn. His lifestyle, centered around bars and night clubs, had led to problems with alcohol and drugs.

In March, Studwell's close friend and teammate, quarterback Tommy Kramer, was treated for chemical dependency. Studwell was involved in Kramer's decision to seek help. That's when the struggle began between Studwell the person and Studwell the middle linebacker.

"I was involved in Tommy's situation from Day One," said Studwell. "It was harder for me to sit through his than through my own. It was hard to have to point a finger at Tommy and tell him he had a problem when I was paddling on the other side of the boat."

"I could identify with some of his problems but I wasn't ready to admit them. It was something I would not have done on my own. I went on the advice of the (Vikings) office and the Hazelden people. But it was hard to admit to myself that I had a problem. As it was, it was quite a while (the first week in June) before I went through treatment."

"Sometimes it takes someone to kick you in the butt. We were fortunate we had enough people who cared. It's hard for anyone to admit they have any type of problem—whether it's alcohol and drugs, marital problems or family problems. It's hard to admit you're wrong or have failed."

Studwell, a ninth-round draft choice from the University of Illinois in 1977, probably is having his best pro season. Despite a broken middle finger on his left hand, he had led the Vikings in unassisted tackles for the third consecutive season.

"I think I'm still improving," said Studwell. "I'm not making as many mental mistakes. And my weight is down about five to 10 pounds. I'm not as physically strong, but I'm moving better, a lot quicker."

And, off the field, a lot slower.

Said Studwell, 28 years old: "It's unfortunate it took me 27 years to grow up, but I'm still a little kid at heart."

Viking Vignettes: Wide receiver Ahmad Rashad was put on injured reserve December 26, meaning his career was over unless the Vikings advanced in the playoffs. Rashad suffered breaks in three small bones in his lower back December 19 at Detroit. On November 22, he announced he would retire after his 10th NFL season to seek a career in broadcasting. . . . The Vikings set a club record for plays (94) in a 42-14 loss to the New York Jets. Mark Gastineau's field-goal block was the first against the Vikings since 1980. The Jets game marked the first time the Vikings had played without wide receivers Rashad and Sammy White (knee) in the starting lineup since the two joined the team in 1976.

JOEL BIERIG



Sudden Transition For James Hunter

DETROIT—On one Sunday afternoon James Hunter was a professional football player, a seven-year veteran at right cornerback for the Detroit Lions with a bright career in his future.

Four days later, Hunter was a football retiree and preparing for a new profession.

Hunter suffered a neck injury in the first quarter of the Lions' loss to Minnesota on December 19. The injury left Hunter paralyzed momentarily. It was the second time in two years he experienced such a sensation.

An examination by the Lions' doctors early the next week determined that there was a risk of permanent paralysis, if he continued playing.

"I don't feel bad about having to make an adjustment, if I have to," Hunter said. "I'm prepared. I'll go on and have a normal life and a good life."

"I'm willing to retire. I'll feel satisfied. I've had seven good years."

Hunter is not by any means unprepared for life without football. His wife, Emmalene, operates a successful dress shop in Detroit, and Hunter has spent off-seasons past working for Anheuser Busch.

A No. 1 draft choice in 1976, Hunter was a starter the last six years at both corners and free safety. He went into the season with 25 career interceptions, fifth highest total among active NFC defensive backs in that category.

Hunter had a history of neck problems. He suffered a pinched nerve in his second season in a game against Dallas. In the second game last year at San Diego, Hunter was partially paralyzed momentarily after making a tackle.

And that's what happened when he met Vikings wide receiver Sam McCullum head-on after a reception. Hunter was on the field for several minutes before being wheeled off on a stretcher.

"At the point of contact, I felt myself go motionless," he said. "It was like a dream. I felt myself falling, but I never felt myself hit the turf."

Lions Den: The Lions questioned two calls by the officials in a 23-21 loss to Tampa Bay. Back judge Pat Harder called pass interference on rookie Bobby Watkins, giving Tampa Bay a first down at the 13, even though Watkins was inside Kevin House on the play. (Four plays later Bill Capece kicked the game-winning field goal.) . . . On the Lions' previous possession, officials called defensive holding against Tampa Bay's Dave Stalls on third down, but reversed their decision after a conference and claimed Stalls' play was legal.

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Laggard Colts Ride in Truck

BALTIMORE—The Baltimore Colts produce the worst record and the best stories in the National Football League.

Just when you think you've heard all of the Frank Kush stories, there's another one to add to your collection.

In the latest episode of The Further Adventures of Frank Kush, the Colts' coach made a record getaway from San Diego after the team's 44-26 loss to the Chargers.

He had the buses pull out so quickly that 16 members of the Colts' party were still in the locker room. Players Jeff Delaney, Zach Dixon and Johnnie Wright were left behind, along with trainer John Lopez, assistant trainer John Kasik, public relations director Walt Gutowski and his aide, Pete Ward, two members of the equipment staff, two film men and five members of the media.

As the 16 people were left milling outside the locker room, there was only one means of quick transportation—the North American Van Lines truck that was taking the equipment to the airport.

So the San Diego 16 were unceremoniously loaded onto the back of the moving van and the doors were locked behind them.

It was pitch black inside the back of the truck as members of the Colts party tried to pass the time with gallows humor.

"It was unbelievable," said John Steadman, sports editor of the Baltimore News American, the only person who's seen every Colts game ever played.

Until 1982, Steadman had never missed a bus leaving the stadium in all the years the team has been playing. But Kush has such a fetish for pulling out quickly that this was the second one Steadman has missed this year. He had to take a cab to the airport in Buffalo when he missed the bus after that game.

Steadman said one member of the media tried to sit on a trunk during the ride to the airport but was thrown off when the big truck went around a curve.

The ironic thing about all this was that Kush had complained to the players about the way they dressed for the first road game after the strike. They've all been well-dressed for subsequent trips, but then three of them wound up locked in the back of a truck.

But this is Kush's way of doing things and he's running the show. The players are playing for him—they had a tie and a pair of three-point losses before the blowout in San Diego—but they're not too happy with the way he's doing things.

The fast departure from San Diego obscured the one good thing that happened to the Colts in the game—a 58-yard field goal by rookie Dan Miller, the third longest in NFL history. Only Tom Dempsey's 63-yarder and Tony Franklin's 59-yarder were longer.

Miller broke the team record of 56 yards by Bert Rechichar in 1953. That was the league record until Dempsey broke it in 1970.

Miller is the youngster who was drafted by Washington in the 11th round and challenged Mark Moseley in training camp, possibly spurring Moseley on to his record season.

After Miller was cut by the Redskins, he had a two-game cup of coffee in New England before John Smith came back from the injured reserve list. Miller was then signed by the Colts after Mike Wood was fired.

With Miller as a kicker and another rookie, Rohn Stark, as a punter, the Colts won't have to worry about a kicker for a long time.

Colts Corral: Kush continues to talk about the possibility of trading the No. 1 pick in the college draft if he gets the right package of players. . . . Add linebacker Sanders Shiver to the names of veteran Colts who'll be gone in the off-season. He's lost his job to Dave Simmons, didn't play at all against Green Bay and saw only part-time action in San Diego. . . . Kush played 48 of his 49 players in the rout in San Diego. Only Holden Smith, who was injured, didn't get into the game. That meant that both backup quarterbacks, David Humm and Art Schlichter, got a chance to play.

The doubts about Curtis Dickey's long-term future weren't lifted when the Colts entered Chargers territory on their first two drives, only to have him fumble the ball away each time. The rout was on then. . . . Wide receiver Ray Butler, yanked after dropping a pass, had a "no comment" after the game.

VITO STELLINO

Klecko Very Wary On Mending Knee

NEW YORK—All-Pro defensive end Joe Klecko rejoined his New York Jets teammates and New York Sack Exchange mates in late December on the practice field. It was Klecko's first appearance since he suffered a ruptured patella tendon in his right knee September 19 in New England.

The Jets were thinking of activating Klecko from injured

reserve if all went well.

"It's nowhere near 100 percent," Klecko said of his surgical right knee, "but it feels very good."

The game plan called for Klecko to be worked in s-l-o-w-l-y. "No more than 10 to 12 plays" were envisioned for Klecko's debut, according to Jets trainer Bob Reese.

"They would not be in a row," said Reese. "We're not planning on him lining up and playing every down."

Klecko, who lost at least 30 pounds during his ordeal, has built himself back to 262 pounds. But he's got a long way to go. No one expected to see the intimidator who terrorized quarterbacks in 1981 with a league-leading 20½ sacks.

"I just gotta worry about getting in shape now," Klecko said. "I have no wind. I have no wind at all."

A proud man, Klecko vows that he will not embarrass himself.

"I just don't want him to rush it," said quarterback Richard Todd, perhaps Klecko's best friend on the team. "I love Joe to death but I wouldn't want to see him come back unless he's 100 percent. I don't think anyone else on this team would."

When the 29-year-old Klecko went down, he feared for his career. He still does. He described himself as "anxious" just a few days before his return.

"I know if I injure it again, that could be it," he said.

But he missed the action too much not to work feverishly during his rehabilitation. "The winning, not being a part of it," he said. "I'm a part of it but I'm not. That's what bothers me the most."

Without Klecko, the Jets' pass rush has suffered, although second-year player Kenny Neil has done a fine job filling in at right end. But without Klecko, left end Mark Gastineau is double-teamed and triple-teamed.

"It's gonna be great that we're getting Joe back," said Gastineau, "but I will say this: Kenny Neil has done a great job. You can't say enough about him."

Walt Michaels was asked if Klecko might be an inspiration to the Jets in the playoffs.

"Providing he can go," said Michaels. "You gotta be in the game. I've got my fingers crossed."

Michaels also had his fingers crossed for defensive right tackle Marty Lyons, whose nagging hamstring injury worsened during the Jets' victory in Minnesota. Lyons missed the game against the Kansas City Chiefs and the club didn't know if he'd be ready for the opening playoff game. Lyons was replaced by Ben Rudolph, a 6-5, 275-pound second-year player.

Jetstream: Todd, prior to the Kansas City game, was the NFL's third-rated quarterback behind Dan Fouts (97.5) and Danny White (97.1). Todd's rating was 92.8. . . . Pat Leahy made all six extra points but missed a 43-yard field goal attempt in Minnesota. But Leahy said he kicked the ball well and felt he was out of his slump.

STEVE SERBY



Knox and Cribbs Priority Items

BUFFALO—Before the Buffalo Bills can start thinking about improving their fortunes in the 1983 season, Owner Ralph Wilson has to clear up two nettlesome situations.

No. 1 is clarifying the status of Coach Chuck Knox, who will be going into the final year of his contract.

No. 2 is finding a resolution to the Joe Cribbs contract situation, which remains an open wound.

Certainly, the Bills don't want to head into next season uncertain about Knox' future. Knox would be in great demand now if he were available. In fact, there are numerous rumors that he will leave Buffalo after next season if not sooner.

"I will be back," Knox said after the Bills' disappointing 27-10 loss to the Dolphins in Miami. What he did not say is whether he meant he would be merely honoring the final year of his contract or that some meaningful negotiations have been held with Wilson.

Security and top dollars probably would keep Knox, but Wilson may have to promise some other benefits. One would be a commitment to construct an indoor practice facility. Knox feels the Bills are handicapped late in the season because of the wintry weather. He'd like an air-supported practice bubble.

Knox also would have to keep his rein over club football operations. Although he's been exasperated at times with the front office's handling of contract matters (i.e. Tom Cousineau and Cribbs), that's one area in which Knox does not want to get involved as long as he's the coach.

Cribbs ended his holdout and rejoined the team after missing the first two regular season games, but he still is not satisfied in his attempts to get his existing contract renegotiated.

The Bills have irritated Cribbs further by trying to withhold his "money now" bonus because he was not on the active roster or the injured reserve list when the players' strike ended. The club may be within its rights, but it seems foolish to save a little and irritate the team's star running back.

In addition to the Knox and Cribbs situations, the Bills face some possible retirements among defensive veterans. Linebacker Isiah Robertson nearly retired after the 1981 season. Now, defensive end Sherman White is hinting of hanging 'em up.



Joe Klecko . . . Taking it s-l-o-w-l-y.

Bill Board: Cribbs' 62-yard scoring burst against Miami was the longest TD run of his career. . . . The Bills' longest pass completion since the strike was only 31 yards, going into the final game. . . . Turnovers were never more painful than in the loss to Miami. The Dolphins traveled a grand total of 48 yards for their 20 second-half points.

MILT NORTHROP

Line Depth Shows with Newman Out

MIAMI—The Miami Dolphins have had more than their share of good breaks this season. Now, even when they get what seems to be a terrible break, it turns out to be not nearly as bad as it might have been.

The Dolphins lost All-Pro guard Ed Newman for the final game of the season and the playoffs when he tore ligaments and cartilage in his right knee during the Dolphins' 27-10 victory over the Buffalo Bills.

Newman, the 10-year veteran who was named to his second All-Pro team in a row, went down in the second quarter of the game. On came fourth-year player Jeff Toews, and the Dolphins' running game barely missed a beat. Toews, who started eight games last season when Bob Kuechenberg went down and who has been substituting for Kuechenberg off and on this season, did more than a credible job.

"It's costly when you have to try to replace an All-Pro and Ed is All-Pro in every sense of the word," Dolphins Coach Don Shula said. "I don't see many better guards around pro football."

But when Toews came on, he saw one who one day might be as good. "Fortunately for us," Shula said, "we're deep on the offensive line."

Even if another player on the line were to go down, Shula would have No. 1 draft pick Roy Foster to fall back on. Foster, who has been working at tackle, will now work as a backup at guard, the position he played at Southern California. And center Mark Dennard, a three-year starter who has been pushed out by Dwight Stephenson, also will get some work at guard.

Newman, who had emerged as the team leader on the line, accepted the injury gracefully. "A Super Bowl ring would be the best get-well present they could give me," he said.

Toews, the brother of Pittsburgh linebacker Loren Toews, said he is hoping the transition will be a smooth one.

"I'll just have to hold down the fort until Ed gets back, whenever that is," Toews said. "I told Ed that I feel really bad that it happened. He knows how I feel, that this certainly is not the way I would want to get a job. Not by somebody else's misfortune, especially not a friend like Ed."

Dolphin Flips: Second-year fullback Andra Franklin and nose tackle Bob Baumhower were named with Newman to the All-Pro team voted on by NFL players and coaches. Franklin, the No. 2 rusher in the league when the voting took place, was stunned by his selection. "I just came here expecting to do a good job," he said. "I never expected this." Baumhower, who made THE SPORTING NEWS' 1981 All-NFL squad, greeted the announcement with more aplomb. . . . Nat Moore, holder of five Dolphins receiving records, continued to insist that he will ask for a trade after the season. Duriel Harris, another wide receiver, is in his option year and hasn't signed yet, fueling speculation that he, too, might be gone next season.

LARRY DORMAN

(Continued on Page 51, Column 1)



Steelers Credit To Widenhofer

PITTSBURGH—Woody Widenhofer usually works with some discomfort. When he was hired 10 years ago to coach the Pittsburgh Steelers' linebackers, Widenhofer had to boss former All-Pro Andy Russell, who was one year older and had been a year ahead of Woody at the University of Missouri. Eventually, Widenhofer was promoted to defensive coordinator, but the assistant head coach was George Perles, a former defensive line coach who also had a voice in the defensive game plans.

Widenhofer's work hasn't gone unnoticed. Houston Coach Eddie Biles wanted him as his defensive coordinator, but, after a long talk with Steelers Coach Chuck Noll, Widenhofer turned down a big raise and decided to stay. Now, the Oilers are ranked last in the AFC defensively and Biles' job is in jeopardy.

Widenhofer's discomfort this season came when Perles left a week before training camp to go to the Philadelphia Stars of the United States Football League and later to Michigan State. Widenhofer had to rebuild an aging defense even though the top draft pick of 1981, defensive end Keith Gary, was playing in Canada. Widenhofer's assistants had limited NFL coaching experience and many veterans had to relearn techniques.

If the Steelers gained anything in the 1982 season, it was a new defense and a new way of dealing with the league's passing games.

Two years ago, Pittsburgh was last in the league in quarterback sacks with 18; now it is among the league leaders. Quarterbacks are still able to pass against the Steelers, but they aren't getting as many big plays. Going into the final game, only two teams had gained 100 yards rushing against the Steelers.

"You can see the difference in practice," Widenhofer said. "Players are more alert. They are playing a lot better. This year we have eliminated the big play and have cut down on our points against."

Perles' departure forced Noll to ask Jon Kolb, an offensive tackle who just retired to a job as the team's strength coach, to coach defensive linemen. Kolb had to study about the position from books.

The new linebacker coach was Dennis Fitzgerald, who came from the college ranks. The secondary coach was Tony Dungy, who was a college quarterback and former pro safety who helped out with linebackers and defensive backs last year. Just when everybody was getting on the same page of the playbook, there was the eight-week strike.

Surprisingly, the pre-strike defense and the post-strike defense have been amazingly different. In the first two games, the Steelers allowed an average of 24 points, 408 yards (326 passing) and 70 percent completions. In the six after the strike, they gave up an average of 12.8 points, 286 yards (195 passing) and 49 percent completions. On top of that, the Steelers averaged four sacks a game after the strike and they gave up seven touchdowns in six games.

"I really believe this, we have a better defense now than we did after our last Super Bowl. And we have been using 18 or 19 players on defense, getting experience for our young people," Widenhofer said.

Players around the league recognized parts of the defense. Jack Lambert and Donnie Shell were selected as starters for the Pro Bowl. Joining them will be center Mike Webster, offensive tackle Larry Brown and wide receiver John Stallworth. Lambert was selected for the ninth straight year, and this time he made it as an inside linebacker.

"Regardless of what you hear, it has been hard for me to adjust to the 3-4; I still prefer the 4-3," Lambert said.

Steeler Shorts: Lynn Swann became the Steelers' all-time leading receiver when he caught his 331st pass. That came December 26 against New England. . . . Walter Abercrombie rushed for 13 yards and caught a 14-yard pass on a play in which he was supposed to be in the backfield. He also returned three kickoffs for better than a 30-yard average, including a 46-yard return. He had never been the deep back on a return team.

JOHN CLAYTON



As All-Pro, Ross Takes a Pounding

CINCINNATI—Cincinnati Bengals tight end Dan Ross received long-overdue recognition from his peers with his selection to the AFC Pro Bowl team.

In another way, though, Ross has been receiving that kind of attention all season. The fourth-year tight end from Northeastern has been the focal point of opponents' efforts to shut down the Bengals' passing attack. He still managed to catch 38 passes for 407 yards in the team's first eight games.

"They're double-teaming me a lot and just hammering the hell out of me at the line of scrimmage," said Ross, describing the change in the way defenses play him.

"I keep saying to myself, 'It should be nice they think of you



Dan Ross . . . Durable Bengal.

that way,' but it's frustrating."

It also makes it more difficult for the Bengals offense, which relies heavily on Ross for its ball-control passing attack. After the 24-10 victory over Seattle, Coach Forrest Gregg said he would complain to the league that his tight end was being mugged while game officials look the other way.

"They got away with murder," Gregg said of the Seahawks, who held Ross—literally, according to the Bengals—to a season low of two catches.

Ross complains to the referees when it's obvious, but he says that sometimes he doesn't even realize he has been held from behind until he looks at the game films. "Then you say, 'No wonder my legs were kind of heavy,'" he said with a laugh.

Despite the constant pounding, Ross is one of the most durable Bengals. He hasn't missed a game in his four years, playing most of last season with a broken bone in his foot. This year, he has been playing on a knee that will require arthroscopic surgery in the off-season. That's a year-ending injury for some, an inconvenience for Ross.

It has taken Ross a couple of years to attain Pro Bowl recognition because he is a throwback to the old breed of tight ends, the kind who do as much blocking as receiving. While he may be the best "pure" tight end in the league, he realizes the first-team All-Pro honors aren't likely as long as San Diego's Kellen Winslow carries the same job description.

"Why don't they make it (Winslow's designation) wide receiver one year and give us tight ends a chance?" Ross said with a smile.

Bengal Banter: The Bengals activated cornerback John Simmons from injured reserve as insurance in the secondary, a result of the groin injury to starter Louis Breeden. Quarterback Mike Ford, claimed on waivers December 1, was released to make room on the roster. Breeden missed the Seattle and Houston games, but was expected to be ready for the playoffs.

MIKE DODD



McDonald, Logan Torrid Air Combo

CLEVELAND—With the emergence of Paul McDonald as the starting quarterback, the Cleveland Browns' offense has linked up with an integral element that had almost been lost in space—wide receiver Dave Logan.

In the first six games, when Brian Sipe was the starting quarterback, Logan had only 12 receptions for 172 yards and no touchdowns. With McDonald in control for the Pittsburgh and Houston games, both of which the Browns won, Logan had eight receptions for 135 yards and one touchdown.

Late in the second quarter of the 20-14 victory over Houston December 26 in the Astrodome, Logan made a remarkable play. It was the kind for which the Browns were feared in 1980, when they were known as the Kardiac Kids.

Interestingly, the play, a 56-yard touchdown connection, was "screwed up right from the beginning," McDonald said.

On third-and-three from the Browns' 44-yard line, Logan lined up wide left, while wide receiver Ricky Feacher and tight end Ozzie Newsome lined up on the right.

The play, described in Browns terminology as "Motion Red Slot Right," was supposed to feature Logan in motion from left to right. But that strategy went out the window when Newsome lined up on the wrong side of the line. He was supposed to be on Logan's side.

"When I saw that Ozzie had lined up on the wrong side," Logan said, "I yelled over to Ricky and he did a great ad-lib."

Feacher went into motion from right to left, broke upfield off Logan's outside shoulder and ran a clearing route toward the middle of the field.

McDonald took a short drop and threw a tight spiral to Logan for a four-yard completion.

Catching the pass at the Browns' 48, Logan beat defender Vernon Perry at the 50 and sprinted upfield, clutching the ball

in his left hand like Chuck Muncie.

There was trouble at the Oilers 15, but not for long. With cornerback Greg Steenick bearing down on him from an angle, Logan knocked Steenick out of the play—and nearly out of the Astrodome—with a stiff-arm to the facemask.

"He ran like a Doberman was chasing him," Browns Coach Sam Rutigliano said.

Brownie Points: Third-year man Lawrence Johnson, who had replaced longtime starter Ron Bolton at left cornerback, suffered ligament and cartilage damage in his left knee during the Houston game and was lost for the season. Going into the Houston game, Johnson had been the club leader in interceptions with four. Bolton, who received a game ball for a key interception against the Oilers, will replace Johnson at the left corner. . . . The Browns planned to activate linebacker Clay Matthews if they make the playoffs. Matthews suffered a broken ankle in the season opener.

ED MEYER



'Cheap Shot' Fine Angers Reinfeldt

HOUSTON—Commissioner Pete Rozelle fined Houston Oiler safety Mike Reinfeldt \$1,000 for delivering a forearm to the head of New York Giants receiver Johnny Perkins. Fine, except that the Oilers were informed of the penalty more than three weeks after the December 5 game.

"It's an injustice," Coach Ed Biles said. "When we got the letter telling us about the fine, I thought it was a prank by somebody."

"Reinfeldt is not a dirty player. For him to be fined for a play like that is ridiculous. After going back over the film and watching the play, the fine is almost outlandish."

Perkins caught an 18-yard pass from Scott Brunner in the game won by the Giants, 17-14. Reinfeldt hit Perkins. Reinfeldt went down. Perkins did not.

"It happened right in front of the Giants' bench," Reinfeldt said. "If it had been a cheap shot, don't you think some of their players would have said something? Nobody said anything, not even Perkins."

"I was trying to hit him in the shoulder. He caught the pass and flinched and lowered his head. I didn't even knock the guy down."

Reinfeldt, the last player on the Oilers who could be called a cheap-shot artist, will appeal the fine.

"There's no due process," Reinfeldt said, "because I'll have to appeal it to Rozelle. I'll be asking him to change a decision he's already made. I'm guilty until proven innocent."

The Oilers have sent end zone film to Rozelle so the commissioner can see the hit from a different angle.

"Rozelle's saying that I purposely tried to injure another player," Reinfeldt said. "That's not true. I've never done that. I've never even received a warning from the commissioner."

"I think this is defamation of character. The fine has tarnished my reputation. I think the commissioner's just trying to prove he's in control."

Gushers: Mike Munchak, the Oilers' No. 1 draft choice, returned from a November 21 injury to see action on one play in the 20-14 loss to Cleveland December 26. Munchak had suffered a cracked bone in his ankle. He played one quarter in the season finale against Cincinnati. "I feel like this year's been a total waste for me," the left guard said. "First the strike, then the injury. I've missed so much practice and game time. Well, at least I'll be ahead of the rookies next year."

JOHN MCCLAIN

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Plunkett Aims Jokes at Himself

LOS ANGELES—His life seems to be on an even keel. No monster highs or abysmal lows for Jim Plunkett.

He's quick with the self-deprecating humor, enjoys what he's doing and seems to be at the height of his professional skills at the age of 34.

A man who went from a Heisman Trophy to taking a battering as a young quarterback with a bad team, from being cut and out of football to a Super Bowl, Plunkett has seen the highs and lived the lows.

So now, as he and the Los Angeles Raiders (7-1 before a season-ending game with San Diego) prepare for the playoffs, Jim Plunkett seems to be on top of the world.

Yet he doesn't dwell on the pluses of quarterbacking a winning team. Rather, Plunkett will rip off a one-liner, often at the expense of Jim Plunkett.

He jokes that rookie running back Marcus Allen, who throws the option pass on occasion for the Raiders, has a stronger arm than he does, "but that isn't saying much."

He was able to joke about an underthrown pass that won a game at Kansas City, saying: "So much for the art of football."

When a reporter was trying to praise the Raiders' offensive line after the Denver game, noting that Plunkett had time to throw, he said, "Give me a break. I didn't get this (a bruise on the chin) for nothing." (Later, he made a point of seriously praising his blockers.)

Partly, the humor comes with winning. The Raiders were 7-8 last year, out of the playoffs, and everyone knows there's nothing funny about losing.

Plunkett can also take a long, hard look at himself, and did so for one reporter recently.

"I'm throwing the ball fairly well," he said. "Not quite as far as I used to be able to throw it, but I've been throwing fairly accurately, and I feel comfortable with that."

Through eight games, Plunkett had completed 135 of 233 passes for 1,808 yards, with 13 touchdowns and 15 interceptions.

"My biggest flaw is that I've had too many interceptions," said Plunkett.

But those interceptions haven't been particularly costly. Even when he was intercepted four times against the Los Angeles Rams, the Raiders wound up winning. And Plunkett completed three of three for 28 yards on the winning drive.

"There are parallels to our Super Bowl season of two years ago," Plunkett told Jack Disney of the Los Angeles Herald Examiner. "When the defense didn't hold down the other team, the offense scored some points. We seem to have that combination again, and in my judgment, we have to win with that combination."

"If I'm asked to compare our team now with two years ago, I'd have to say we're maybe better. We are a real good football team."

Raiders Report: Plunkett's comment that his arm isn't as strong as Allen's may not be farfetched. The halfback threw a perfect strike—some 40 yards—to Cliff Branch against Denver and it would have been an easy touchdown if the wide receiver hadn't dropped it. "It was too easy," said Branch. "I had too much time to think." . . . Denver Coach Dan Reeves praised Allen, though his team held the league's top rookie back to 16 yards rushing on 12 carries. "There's so much he can do, running, receiving, blocking," said Reeves.

Linebacker Matt Millen returned an interception 60 yards against Denver, not bad for a guy who weighs 265 pounds. "I was trying to run out the clock," he said. His interception occurred halfway through the first quarter.

BOB COX



Chandler Shakes Ghost of J.J.

SAN DIEGO—The ghost of John Jefferson obviously is behind Wes Chandler now. Yet he continues to be haunted by it.

No matter where he is, no matter what he does—and the San Diego Chargers' wide receiver does plenty—the question inevitably comes up: "Wes, do you think you've shaken J.J.'s ghost?" To this, Chandler can only shake his head.

It was last year, when Jefferson, upset with his contract, was traded by the Chargers to Green Bay. To many in San Diego, who had grown accustomed to Jefferson's circus catches, this was the beginning of the end for Air Coryell. As it turned out, it may have been the beginning. Reacting quickly, Chargers management dealt a No. 1 selection it had acquired from Green Bay for J.J. and its own No. 3 pick to New Orleans for Chandler.

Coming in cold last year, unfamiliar with Don Coryell's complicated aerial system, Chandler still managed to catch 52 passes for 857 yards with San Diego, after catching 17 for 185 yards with the Saints. This year, he has been even better.

Despite missing the Denver game with a bruised kidney,

Chandler caught 49 passes for 1,032 yards and nine touchdowns in eight games. In a four-week stretch, against San Francisco, Cincinnati, Baltimore and the Raiders, he caught 27 passes for 641 yards and eight touchdowns, including a 10-catch, 260-yard evening against Cincinnati. Ghost? What ghost?

"You can't compare J.J. and Wes," said Chargers tight end Kellen Winslow, a close friend of Jefferson. "J.J. is J.J. and Wes is Wes. They're both great receivers. Wes Chandler is not in J.J.'s ghost."

As it is, Chandler may be a better all-round receiver than Jefferson. J.J. may make the more spectacular catch—and after Chandler's performance against San Francisco even that is debatable—but no receiver in the league runs better after he catches the ball than the former Florida All-America. Chandler also can return kicks, and he has been known to run out of the backfield on occasion. He also is an inspirational player.

"Catching the ball is the hardest part for me," Chandler said. "Running is easiest. I don't try to interfere with my legs—I go where my legs lead me. The only time I might make an adjustment is in the open field, and it happens so fast I can't describe the moves I've made."

"It's a God-given gift, and I thank Him for that."

Charger Accounts: In that three-game span against San Francisco, Cincinnati and Baltimore, the San Diego offense amassed 1,715 yards and 135 points (17 touchdowns). . . . During that streak, quarterback Dan Fouts completed 76 of 118 attempts for 1,183 yards and 11 touchdowns. Over his last 59 starts, Fouts had averaged 290 yards passing per game and San Diego was 42-17 during that span. . . . Placekicker Rolf Benirschke is one of the five finalists in the NFL Man of the Year contest. His competition is Green Bay's James Lofton, Washington's Joe Theismann, Cincinnati's Reggie Williams and the Jets' Marty Lyons. The winner will be announced in mid-January.

NICK CANEPA



Battered Rudnay Decides to Retire

KANSAS CITY—He's an inch shorter than when he started playing football 14 years ago. His back hurts constantly. His knees have been scarred twice by surgery in the past eight months.

But even more than that, or because of it, the game of football is no longer as much fun for Kansas City Chiefs center Jack Rudnay.

That's why he announced his retirement, after 13 seasons as the Chiefs' starting center. His final game was January 2 against the New York Jets at Arrowhead Stadium.

The decision did not come as a surprise to those around the Chiefs. The injuries, the outside influences, and finally the losing had taken their toll on him. Most of all, Rudnay wanted to go out on his terms.

"I always thought when you got older, you lost some ability to play. I really never felt like that happened to me," Rudnay said. "I felt it was as good as it was in my early years, perhaps in a different fashion, but nevertheless I got the job done."

"I've had what I consider to be a proud and honorable career, so it certainly is important to me to end in that fashion. I'm not interested in hanging on. I've had too proud a career to hang on an extra year for a few bucks."

A fourth-round draft choice in 1969 out of Northwestern, he spent his first season on the injured reserve list with a back problem. He practiced every day with Hank Stram's team that eventually won Super Bowl IV, beating the Minnesota Vikings. But because he never played in a game, Rudnay did not feel part of the team. He received a Super Bowl ring, but never wore it.

Since then, he's had to settle for personal accomplishments, because the Chiefs made the playoffs just once after that. He made four trips to the Pro Bowl, 1973 through '76, and he played in 144 consecutive games, from the opening game of the 1970 season to the final game of the 1979 season.

"I remember a game, it was in 1977 against the Bears, when he had a very bad compound fracture of a finger," said trainer Wayne Rudy. "At halftime, the doctors sewed his finger up and he went back in and played the second half."

Such stories about Rudnay are plentiful. He played five games in the 1975 season with a broken hand. It just happened to be the hand he snapped with. Teammates remember the countless times he literally crawled off the field, only to return a play or two later. Sometimes he never came out.

"I know the thing that's impressed me most about Jack is his ability to sustain himself, to keep himself in the game," said Tom Condon, who played next to Rudnay for nine years. "I know there have been times when an injury has bothered me in a game, where it started to play with my mind. All you have to do is look at Jack, and remember the times he just wouldn't let it get to him, and it was enough to keep you in there."

"I'd been considering it for some time," Rudnay said. "The time in my life is right for it. I've been considering other business opportunities. I had a tremendous athletic gift. But the potential physical danger to my body was something I discussed with doctors this year, and frankly, I think I shouldn't try and trick Mother Nature any longer."

"I guess it is the little moments that I'll miss most," he said. "One of the great things about this game is the camaraderie you share with teammates and opponents."

Chiefs Briefs: If their almost weekly quarterback controversy wasn't enough, the Chiefs started a punter hassle when they waived Jeff Gossett, signed Case deBrujin, then waived deBrujin and re-signed Gossett. . . . December 28 was an off day for the Chiefs, and quite a few attended the wedding of Pro Bowl cornerback Gary Green in Springfield, Mo. Next day, Green was back practicing. Some honeymoon. . . . The crowd of 24,319 that saw the Chiefs lose to San Francisco the day after Christmas was the second smallest in Arrowhead Stadium history. In that game, the Chiefs did not top 300 yards in offense, the 10th consecutive game they had failed to reach that figure.

BOB GRETZ



Bryant and Scholtz Are Rookie Plums

SEATTLE—More than a few jaws dropped and there was a smattering of guffaws at the National Football League draft last spring when the Seattle Seahawks made defensive lineman Jeff Bryant of Clemson their No. 1 pick, the sixth player selected overall.

There were more puzzled looks when the Seahawks made tall, rangy linebacker Bruce Scholtz of Texas their second-round selection (33rd overall).

But nobody's chortling over those picks now, except perhaps the Seattle scouting chief, Dick Mansperger, and the Seahawks' defensive coaching staff.

Bryant and Scholtz have been starters all season and both have contributed to a significant improvement by the Seahawks' defense.

"They're a big part of it," said Jackie Simpson, the Seattle defensive coordinator. Both are being boosted for all-rookie honors.

There was general agreement that the Seahawks' defense needed a talent transfusion after Seattle ranked 26th among the NFL's 28 clubs in 1981. Simpson's analysis went something like this: (1) Get a good defensive lineman to improve the pass rush, and (2) Move outside linebacker Michael Jackson to the middle and find a replacement for Jackson's spot on the left side.

The result was the drafting of the 6-5, 260-pound Bryant and the 6-6, 240-pound Scholtz.

Bryant's strength seems to offer a nice balance with the speed and quickness of the Seahawks' other defensive end, Jacob Green. While Bryant's strength is impressive, Simpson also likes "his real good instincts. He has a real good knowledge of angles. When he starts off after a ballcarrier, although he may not have the speed of a Kenny Easley, he knows how to take the angle and cut them off."

Adds defensive line coach Frank Lauterbur: "He's a strong, powerful defensive end with great balance. And he gives us 100 percent out on the field. He's learning constantly, every game he plays better, learning more tricks of the trade."

Seahawk Talk: Interim Coach Mike McCormack refused to specify which areas he thinks the Seahawks will look to in the 1983 draft, but he feels three players will make the club a playoff contender. Most speculation centers on the need for a quick running back, another defensive lineman and an offensive tackle. . . . With a wealth of young linebacking talent, McCormack has raised the prospect of switching from a 4-3 to a 3-4 defense next season, "but that will be up to the new coach." . . . McCormack is intrigued by the possibility of moving former University of San Francisco basketball player Ken McAlister, a defensive back and special teams performer, to offense as a receiver, "kind of like San Diego uses Kellen Winslow." McCormack calls the 6-5, 222-pound McAlister "probably the best athlete on our squad."

BILL KNIGHT



Turnovers Ruin Broncos' Season

DENVER—There are those who would blame it on the protracted National Football League players strike.

Others would explain it as typical of a team going through a difficult period of transition.

Coach Dan Reeves, however, reduced the demise of the Denver Broncos to a simple matter of mathematics.

Thirty-four take away 17 equals 17.

Those were the Broncos' giveaway-takeaway numbers during the abbreviated nine-game NFL season. The Broncos lost the ball an average of almost four times a game, got it back on turnovers an average of two times a game. That, of course, is negative of about two per game.

"You can forget all the other stuff," said Reeves in analyzing Denver's lost season. "You give up the ball four times a game and you're not going to beat anybody."

(Continued on Page 51, Column 3)

Four Top-Rated Teams Routed

Riding in on Santa Claus' coattails was the massive overload of traditional holiday tournaments that dominate college basketball at the end of each calendar year. The Yuletide meets, which took most teams to distant sites, marked the final warm-ups before they tackled the meat of their schedules in January and February.

A hoop sage once noted that most schools have just one motive for hosting a holiday tourney: Invite three soft touches to its "classic," win two games and present itself a nice trophy. On the other hand, several touted teams were willing to play away from home and they found their holiday odysseys were no holiday at all. Tennessee, Georgetown, Missouri and Tulsa played as if they were suffering from holiday hangovers when each lost a tourney game by at least 15 points.

SOUTH: Memphis No One-Man Show

All-America candidate Keith Lee has been called the best act out of Memphis since Elvis Presley, but Memphis State fans aren't just whistling "Dixie" when they claim their Tigers are more than just a one-man team. The top-ranked Tigers, 9-0, proved they don't need optimum effort from Lee to win when they posted a 63-58 victory at Ole Miss. The 6-10 sophomore sat out most of the second half with foul problems, but forwards Bobby Parks and Derrick Phillips picked up the slack. Parks paced MSU with 17 points and Phillips contributed 12 points and seven rebounds.

Unlike Memphis State, which won its closest game of the season, second-ranked Kentucky and sixth-ranked Virginia coasted to triumphs. Senior forward Derrick Hord logged 23 points, 16 in the first half, to catapult Kentucky to an 83-62 romp over Kansas in the Wildcats' annual game at Freedom Hall in Louisville. Virginia overwhelmed Old Dominion, 75-59, to win the Richmond Times-Dispatch Invitational. Just as Ralph Sampson shut down Duke's Mike Gminski and Minnesota's Randy Breuer his freshman year, Ohio State's Herb Williams his sophomore year, North Carolina's Sam Perkins last season and Georgetown's Pat Ewing this year, he outplayed ODU's Mark West, too. Sampson finished with 21 points, 15 rebounds and seven blocked shots. He also intimidated the Monarchs into shooting 36 percent from the floor. West managed only seven points, grabbed 13 rebounds and rejected four shots.

"It's always easier for Ralph to play against the better big people because he is not ganged up on by the little guys as much," said Virginia Coach Terry Holland.

Mississippi State upset Tulane and Southwestern Louisiana to win the Sugar Bowl Tournament crown. . . . Stetson blew a nine-point halftime advantage and lost to No. 19 Purdue, 61-60, in the finals of the Tangerine Bowl tourney. . . . Georgia was off to its best record (9-0) in 35 years after clipping Western Kentucky, 90-69, in the finals of the Cotton States Classic.

FAR WEST: Gray Plays Like Legends

His predecessors include Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Bill Walton. Is it any wonder Stuart Gray has problems living up to the expectations of UCLA fans? Heralded as the second coming of Walton, Gray has been slow underneath and unimposing in the middle. It reached the point where he was benched in the Bruins' loss at Maryland earlier this season. However, it was a

WHERE THEY PLAY

January 7—N.C. State at Clemson, Notre Dame at Villanova.

January 8—Kentucky at Alabama, South Alabama at UAB, UCLA at Arizona, USC at Arizona State, Baylor at Arkansas, New Orleans at Canisius, Pepperdine at DePaul, Tulsa at Drake, James Madison at East Carolina, Tenn.-Chattanooga at East Tennessee State, Kansas at Evansville, Auburn at Florida, Louisville at Florida State, Long Beach State at Fullerton State, Idaho at Gonzaga, SMU at Houston, Michigan at Iowa, South Florida at Jacksonville, Duke at LaSalle, Georgia at LSU, Cincinnati at Loyola (Ill.), Xavier at Marquette, Virginia at Maryland, Purdue at Minnesota, Tennessee at Mississippi, Vanderbilt at Mississippi State, UNLV vs. Cal-Irvine at Long Beach, Indiana at Ohio State, Texas-Arlington at Oklahoma State, St. Bonaventure at Penn State, Dayton at Providence, VCU at Richmond, Georgetown vs. St. John's at Madison Square Garden, Rutgers at Saint Joseph's, Syracuse vs. North Carolina at Charlotte, Washington at Washington State, Illinois State at West Texas State, Temple at West Virginia, Illinois at Wisconsin.

January 9—Wichita State at Creighton, N.C. State at Missouri

January 10—UCLA at Arizona State, Southwestern Louisiana at Houston, Tennessee at LSU, Georgia at Mississippi, Kentucky at Mississippi State, Georgetown at Syracuse, Memphis State at Virginia Tech

January 11—Vanderbilt at Alabama, St. John's at Connecticut, Western Kentucky at Jacksonville, Iona at Marquette, Oral Roberts at Oklahoma State, Virginia Commonwealth at Old Dominion, Florida at South Florida

January 12—Toledo at Bowling Green, Dayton at Cincinnati, Louisville at Duke, DePaul at Loyola (Ill.), Minnesota at Michigan, Maryland at North Carolina, Virginia at N.C. State, Villanova at Pitt, Houston at TCU

January 13—Indiana at Illinois, Bradley at Illinois State, Fresno State at Long Beach State, Stetson at Marshall, Iowa at Northwestern, West Virginia at Penn State, Ohio State at Purdue, Fullerton State at San Jose State, Birmingham at South Florida, Oregon State at USC, Arkansas at Texas A&M, Oregon at UCLA, Arizona State at Washington State, Tulsa at Wichita State

January 14—San Diego State at BYU, Hawaii at Utah

January 15—St. John's at Boston College, Memphis State at Cincinnati, Alabama at Georgia, Ohio State at Illinois, Indiana State at Illinois State, Iowa State at Iowa, Old Dominion at James Madison, Auburn at Kentucky, DePaul at Louisville, Notre Dame at Marquette, Duke at Maryland, Minnesota at Michigan State, LSU at Mississippi, Dayton at Missouri, Fresno State at UNLV, Idaho at Nevada-Reno, Southwestern Louisiana at New Orleans, Saint Joseph's at Penn, West Virginia at Pitt, Indiana at Purdue, Arkansas at SMU, Mississippi State at Tennessee, Houston at Texas, Oregon State at UCLA, San Diego State at Utah, Florida at Vanderbilt, Providence at Villanova, North Carolina at Virginia, Clemson at Wake Forest, Arizona State at Washington, Drake at Wichita State, Evansville at Xavier, Connecticut at Georgetown

January 16—Jacksonville at Ala-Birmingham

COLLEGE ROUNDUP

TSN's Top 40

By MIKE DOUCHANT

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 MEMPHIS STATE | 14 N.C. STATE | 27 SAN DIEGO ST |
| 2 KENTUCKY | 15 SYRACUSE | 28 TULSA |
| 3 INDIANA | 16 NO. CAROLINA | 29 ILLINOIS ST. |
| 4 UCLA | 17 NEW ORLEANS | 30 ARKANSAS |
| 5. IOWA | 18 FRESNO STATE | 31 MINNESOTA |
| 6. VIRGINIA | 19 PURDUE | 32 DEPAUL |
| 7. VILLANOVA | 20 SOUTHWESTERN | 33 IDAHO |
| 8. HOUSTON | LOUISIANA | 34 DAYTON |
| 9. NEVADA- | 21 GEORGETOWN | 35 LOUISIANA ST. |
| LAS VEGAS | 22 OKLAHOMA ST. | 36 RUTGERS |
| 10. ALABAMA | 23 WICHITA STATE | 37 AUBURN |
| 11. ST. JOHN'S | 24 OKLAHOMA | 38 OLD DOMINION |
| 12. LOUISVILLE | 25 MISSOURI | 39 MURRAY ST. |
| 13. TENNESSEE | 26 WEST VIRGINIA | 40 MARYLAND |

BEST OF THE REST: American University, Arizona State, Boston College, Florida, Fullerton State, Georgia, Illinois, Iona, Marquette, Michigan, Mississippi, Mississippi State, Montana, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Oregon State, Penn, Pepperdine, South Carolina, South Florida, Stetson, Tennessee-Chattanooga, TCU, Tulane, Vanderbilt, Va. Commonwealth, Wake Forest, Washington State, Western Kentucky.

different Stuart Gray that powered fourth-ranked UCLA to a 76-72 victory over No. 12 Louisville. The 7-0 sophomore center scored a career-high 14 points, all-in the second half, and grabbed nine rebounds to boost the Bruins to their win. He also delivered a dunk shot with 30 seconds left to snap a 72-72 tie.

"At halftime I told myself, 'You're a big, slow center.' I don't mind when people say or write that. But when I say it myself, I get mad. And I play a lot better when I get mad," Gray said.

"Gray has a lot of talent, but he didn't beat us," said Louisville Coach Denny Crum after watching his team blow a 15-point advantage. "We beat ourselves. But give UCLA credit. They did a good job hanging in there and coming back."

After sitting out a year following his transfer from Arizona to Nevada-Las Vegas, Jeff Collins was like a war hero who spent too much time behind a desk. He wanted back into action. Making up for lost time, the 6-2 guard was named MVP after scoring a total of 43 points in lifting host UNLV to the championship of the Las Vegas Holiday Classic. Senior center Sidney Green popped in 25 points and Collins 18 in the Rebels' 70-54 triumph over previously unbeaten Tennessee.

It was like a Perry Mason rerun—the defense rests—when eighth-ranked Houston won at Pepperdine, 93-92. Michael Young's three-point play after a steal by Clyde Drexler broke a 90-90 tie. . . . Idaho, ranked No. 33, frittered away an eight-point halftime lead, but the Vandals hung on to nip Oregon State, 42-41, in double overtime in the finals of the Far West Classic.

NEAR WEST: Behind the 8 Ball

It wasn't paradise, but then it wasn't exactly a disaster when Big Eight co-favorites Oklahoma and Missouri both posted 2-1 records in the eight-team Rainbow Classic in Hawaii.

Freshman sensation Wayman Tisdale was voted the tourney's outstanding player after scoring 44 points and grabbing 17 rebounds to propel Oklahoma to a 96-85 victory over Hawaii and a third-place finish. In the opening round, Tisdale tallied 32 points, 23 after intermission, in the Sooners' 88-86 triumph over previously unbeaten Virginia Tech. Then he sat out much of the first half with foul trouble before finishing with 26 points in a 77-69 loss to eventual champion North Carolina.

Carolina's 73-58 nod over Missouri in the finals avenged an earlier four-point loss to the Tigers and put the Tar Heels in line for a high national ranking. "I honestly don't care at this point," said UNC Coach Dean Smith of the possibility of working up the Top 20 ladder. "Our goal is to get to the NCAA tourney and each of these games helps us en route. We're going to be a very good team. We're going to improve."

Sam Perkins (24) and Michael Jordan (19) combined for 43 points to help the Tar Heels erase a 10-point deficit against Mizzou. The Tigers would have been in the losers' bracket if not for Michael Walker's basket with 11 seconds left to give them a 48-47 verdict over Arizona State in the first round.

Guard Shelton Gibbs' 28 points were in vain when St. Peter's bowed to No. 30 Arkansas, 52-48, at the Meadowlands. . . . Oklahoma State, ranked No. 22, overcame a two-point halftime deficit to level Oklahoma City, 76-64, in the championship game of the All-College Tournament. . . . Tulsa was upset by Florida State, 96-80, in the consolation game of the Cabrillo Classic. Hurricane center Bruce Vanley did not play in that game because of an altercation with Coach Nolan Richardson. . . . Creighton erased 13-point, second-half deficits in each contest but still lost at DePaul, 68-66, and Marquette, 64-52.

EAST: Mixed Results for Big East Powers

Highly regarded Villanova and Georgetown prepared for Big East action with disparate results in tourneys in California. Tourney MVP Stewart Granger scored a total of 38 points as Villanova won the Cabrillo Classic championship by defeating Tulsa, 75-68, and host San Diego State, 63-57. Meanwhile, Georgetown was routed, 94-73, by Alabama in the finals of the

Winston Tire Holiday Classic in Los Angeles.

Second-half spurts carried Villanova to a pair of come-from-behind victories. A 12-2 blitz erased a five-point deficit against Tulsa before a 15-4 outburst gave the Wildcats a comfortable lead against San Diego State.

It was a troubled night for Georgetown when the Hoyas met 'Bama, and basketball may not have had all that much to do with it. They played without Coach John Thompson, who flew back to Washington when he learned his mother had been hospitalized for severe burns apparently suffered in a bathtub. She passed away the next day.

"Everybody feels bad about the death of Coach Thompson's mother," said assistant Coach Craig Esherick. "I wouldn't want to insult anyone's intelligence and say it didn't have an effect on our play. But I don't want to insult Alabama and say that was the reason we lost. All you have to do is look at the stat sheet to see why we lost."

Statistics showed that Alabama's Terry Williams connected on 14 of 15 field-goal attempts. Bobby Lee Hurt chipped in with 17 points and eight rebounds. "They are a very good team, and I must honestly say that we manhandled them," said Crimson Tide Coach Wimp Sanderson.

St. John's, ranked No. 11, and Syracuse, ranked No. 15, closed the calendar year with unbeaten records. St. John's was 11-0 after defeating previously unbeaten Wake Forest, 72-65, in the title game of the ECAC Holiday Festival in New York. Syracuse raised its record to 9-0 with an 87-66 shelling of Pitt. The Orangemen, coming off a two-week layoff, were sparked by Erich Santifer's 10 of 12 effort from the floor.

It was a homecoming of sorts for N. C. State Coach Jim Valvano, and his 14th-ranked Wolfpack responded by overcoming an 11-point, first-half deficit with 16 straight points to upend No. 26 West Virginia, 67-59, at New Jersey's Meadowlands. "It was good to see all the Italians rooting me on," said Valvano, a native of Hackensack, N. J. . . . Backup guard Todd Berkenpas, entering the Rochester Classic with a meager 2.7 scoring average, was named tourney MVP after popping in a total of 22 points to help fifth-ranked Iowa defeat James Madison, 47-45, and Seton Hall, 85-63.

MIDWEST: Holiday Cheer

It was run, gun and have fun basketball as Minnesota and Indiana entertained their fans with romps over lesser lights. Minnesota, ranked No. 31, set a school record for most points as three players (Alonzo Skanes, Randy Breuer and Zebedee Howell) scored 20 or more in a 120-82 thrashing of Indiana State. Indiana was just as explosive in its highest scoring game since 1979, a 110-62 drubbing of Grambling in the opening round of the Hoosier Classic. The third-ranked Hoosiers then breezed to a 67-50 victory over Nebraska in the finals.

Michigan finished its non-conference card with a 9-1 ledger after pinning a 99-80 loss on Penn. . . . Loyola got 27 points from Alfredrick (The Great) Hughes, but the Ramblers succumbed at Illinois, 73-72, as Illini freshman center Efrem Winters scored 20 points and blocked a shot with two seconds left.



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BASKETBALL BULLETIN

COLLEGE

NCAA Legislation

Athletic directors oppose by about 3 to 1 a proposal that attendance figures be used as criteria to determine whether some schools remain in Division I. Of 213 Division I athletic directors or their representatives responding to a poll conducted by the Washington Post, 117 were against the proposal, 15 were leaning toward voting against it, 37 said they would vote for it, nine leaned in favor of voting for it and 35 were undecided.

The proposal is to be voted on at the NCAA convention in San Diego in mid-January. It includes a provision that schools that do not field a top-level football team must average 3,500 per home basketball game or 110,000 annually home and away to retain their status. About 50 colleges would lose their opportunity to qualify for the NCAA Division I tournament if restructuring is approved.

The greed of the football powers is incredible. They want all of the money although in the last three years only two percent of a total pot of nearly \$25 million went to NCAA tourney schools that do not meet the new criteria.

A proposal that probably won't be on the agenda for the NCAA convention until next year would move the start of organized basketball workouts from October 15 to November 15. It would also delay the beginning of the regular season from the first Friday after Thanksgiving to after Christmas. The Southwest Conference is planning a lobbying effort to bring the concept before the NCAA in January, 1984, unless there is a special convention later in 1983. For its scheduling proposals, the SWC anticipates opposition from the Division I schools that don't play football, the Division II and III schools and the sponsors of holiday tournaments. There were 34 tourneys involving Division I teams the last week in December.

Here, There and Everywhere

UCLA sugar daddy Sam Gilbert, accused of violating NCAA rules and supposedly removed by the school from any further active role in the basketball program, recently approached a writer (Pam King of the Los Angeles Herald Examiner) covering a Bruins game and called her a pain in the --. King says Gilbert also said, "I'm getting up a campaign to get you out of here."

Gilbert, who remains a season ticket holder, frequently attends UCLA road games and still gets premium seats from Coach Larry Farmer. Gilbert continues to be a heavy contributor to the Bruins' athletic department. The new women's locker room at UCLA is to be named after his wife, Rose.

One rumor suggested that Ken Hayes' firing as Oral Roberts coach was not President Oral Roberts' idea at all, but that of a man who is the athletic committee chairman for the school's board of regents. This man formerly was associated with Tulsa University when Hayes coached there and had something to do with Hayes' dismissal from that job. . . . Some say Leonard Hamilton, associate coach at Kentucky, will be the top candidate for the Houston job when Guy Lewis retires.

Dr. Stan Frager, an expert on psychology and hypnosis, is using both to help get better performances out of Kentucky's team. Wildcats Coach Joe B. Hall had heard of Frager's success with in-state rival Louisville, where Frager is a professor. "We're using Dr. Frager on a trial basis to see what role it (hypnosis) can play," Hall explained. . . . Virginia's loss to NAIA power Chaminade (Hawaii) won't count against the Cavaliers in the Ratings Percentage Index, the mathematical formula that helps the Division I Committee determine seedings in the NCAA championship tournament. The RPI doesn't include games against non-Division I schools.

A couple of 6-6, 235-pound freshmen football players have joined big-time basketball squads. Tight end Randy Gunther of Connecticut and defensive end Jeff Ellis of Memphis State are the two-sport athletes. . . . Colorado playmaker Jay Humphries was nursing frostbitten fingers. Humphries said he went to Stapleton International Airport in Denver Christmas Eve and learned his flight home to Los Angeles was delayed, so he ac-

On the Sidelines

| Player | School | Pos. | Class | Reason |
|-----------------|-------------|------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| Kenny Austin | Rice | F | Sr. | Declared academically ineligible. |
| Johnnie Bailey | E'ern Mich. | F | Jr. | Dropped off the team. |
| A. Maceo Battle | Memphis St. | C | Sr. | Out one month with knee injury. |
| Dan Bockhorn | Appalachian | G | Sr. | Flunked out of school. |
| Joe Carrabino | Harvard | F | Jr. | Side-lined with back injury. |
| Glenn Cross | Cen. Mich. | C | Jr. | Side-lined with knee injury. |
| Greg Eifert | Purdue | F | Jr. | Side-lined with ankle injury. |
| Mark Getty | Wyoming | C | Fr. | Lost for season after knee injury. |
| Trevor Green | Brooklyn | F | Jr. | Side-lined with ankle injury. |
| Gerry Henry | Nagara | F | Jr. | Lost for season with wrist injury. |
| Harold Howard | Evansville | G | Jr. | Put on inactive status by coach. |
| Bryant Hunt | Appalachian | G | Sr. | Flunked out of school. |
| Lamont Lampkins | SIU-E | F | Jr. | Dropped out of school. |
| Bryan Mitchell | Pitt | G | Fr. | Out two weeks, dislocated finger. |
| Charlie Sittom | Oregon St | F | Jr. | Out two weeks with knee injury. |
| Jimmy Stepp | Eastern Ky | G | Sr. | Side-lined with knee & foot injuries. |
| Tim Tipton | Auburn | F | Fr. | Will transfer to another school. |
| Jeff Todd | Ball State | G | So. | Quit the team. |
| David Vaughn | VCU | F-C | Fr. | Went transfer to East Tennessee St. |
| Greg Walters | Montana St. | C | So. | Side-lined with broken foot. |
| Andre Williams | Phi | F | C | Side-lined with foot injury. |



Johnny Davis . . . Returns to action.

cepted a ride to a friend's house. The friend's four-wheel drive truck got stuck about a mile from its destination. Humphries decided to walk the rest of the way, without gloves. . . . Center Leonard Agee, Loyola Marymount's top scorer and rebounder last season, is no longer enrolled at Fullerton State, where he planned to sit out this year and become eligible next season.

PRO

Hoop Scoop

Numerous teams were doing spade work for deals that must be consummated by the trading deadline on February 15. The Pacers agreed to accept a cash settlement of about \$200,000 from New York for releasing their rights to free agent guard Johnny Davis, but the Knicks couldn't work out a contract with Indiana's leading scorer last season. Atlanta stepped in and gave the Pacers cash and a 1983 No. 2 draft choice to acquire Davis, who signed a three-year, \$1 million contract.

If Otis Birdsong did not have such a hefty contract, he probably would be peddled. The Nets tried to trade him last summer but found no takers, even though they offered to pay half his \$1 million-per-year salary. . . . A lack of playing time has eroded Kelvin Ransey's confidence. Dallas may ship him to San Diego for Jerome Whitehead after Clippers Coach Paul Silas is convinced that reserve center Swen Nater is back in shape.

Detroit is also interested in Whitehead, but San Diego rejected the Pistons' offer of two high draft choices. It seemed the Clippers were backing out of deals at every turn. They could have had Detroit guard John Long for forward Michael Brooks, but Brooks was taken off the trading block when he started playing well as their sixth man. San Diego also talked with Kansas City about Brooks. . . . Seeking a replacement for struggling Al Wood at shooting guard, the Clippers reportedly discussed swapping Tom Chambers to Utah for Darrell Griffith.

Denver's Rich Kelley could be headed for Utah, Golden State or Chicago once he gets off the injured list. A Nuggets-Warriors trade probably would be a multi-player deal. . . . The San Antonio Spurs reportedly led the NBA in profit last season with \$1.3 million in net income. Part of the profit was the result of low overhead. The Spurs rent their arena for practically nothing. The Celtics average over 4,500 more fans per home date than San Antonio, but they made only \$1 million.

The defensive guidelines the NBA adopted last year in an attempt to make it easier for referees to police the zone defense have become a farce. They're simply impossible to enforce in such a fast-paced game. . . . Two years ago, only half the players in the Continental Basketball Association were former NBA draft choices. This season over 85 percent of the CBA players were NBA draft picks, including five first-rounders. Utah, Detroit and Denver were the first three NBA teams to contract with the CBA to sign players under a CBA player development program that gives pro clubs several options on procuring players.

A television tower that collapsed recently in Missouri City, Tex., killing five workers, was transmitting the Houston Rockets' TV signal. The league's worst team will be off the air for at least a month and possibly as long as a year. . . . A gunman invaded the home of Boston guard M.L. Carr and robbed his wife of a ring and watch—both Christmas presents. . . . Cleveland center Sam Lacey fouled out of a recent game midway through the second quarter. . . . Assistant coach Al Bianchi of the Phoenix Suns was fined \$2,000 by the league office for throwing a clipboard at a referee. . . . There were almost as many points scored as fans when the Nuggets outlasted Golden State, 130-128, in snowbound Denver December 27.

This and That

Boston Owner Harry Mangurian said that 65-year-old Hall of Famer Red Auerbach will not retire as president and general manager of the Celtics at the end of this season. . . . Boston's Cedric Maxwell wasn't talking to the media, but his body language needed some explaining after he made an obscene gesture to the referee following his ejection from a game against

Milwaukee. . . . The New York Knicks will try anything to regain the attention of their lost fans. The Knicks' uniforms will be redesigned along the lines of their uniforms of the early 1970s when they were among the league's top teams. . . . Some think the Bucks will be playing in a new 17,000- to 18,000-seat arena in the Milwaukee suburb of Waukesha two years from now. However, the Bucks have sold out for only four home games this season with the smallest arena in the league. Their average attendance is down about 500 to 10,000.

Utah general Manager-Coach Frank Layden should have known he was taking a huge risk when he acquired troubled John Drew from Atlanta. After all, Layden was an assistant coach with the Hawks for three seasons. Atlanta G.M. Stan Kasten said the Hawks "absolutely did not give them damaged goods." John Udall, an FBI special agent in Phoenix, said Drew had an addiction to cocaine.

If retired Robert Reid returns to the Rockets next season, he said he would take a substantial pay cut from his contract, worth \$300,000 annually. Reid has been devoting his time and energy to the Pentecostal Church. . . . Ever wonder what happened to former NBA guards Ernie DiGregorio, Jim Price and Chris Ford? DiGregorio is coaching the Rhode Island School for the Deaf basketball team; Price is coaching women's basketball at Indiana-Purdue University in Indianapolis, and Ford assists Boston College's team on an informal basis.

A suit filed against Phoenix guard Dennis Johnson by a nurse from Redmond, Wash., was referred to the battered women's unit of the Seattle city attorney's office. . . . A fan who wants to watch Portland on pay-TV will have to shell out \$170 (including installation and service fees) for a five-game package that is designed to test pay-TV's impact on the live gate.

NBA Roundup

Philadelphia had the best record in the league (24-5) and a rare week off after frustrating Dallas, 126-116, in overtime on December 29. The Mavericks' Brad Davis hit a three-point basket at the buzzer of regulation time to tie the score, but Philly scored the first 10 points in the extra session. Andrew Toney scored 36 points and Moses Malone collected 30 points and 24 rebounds for the 76ers.

Cynics have waited for Kansas City to crumble, but it hasn't happened yet. The Kings posted their most impressive victory of the season December 28 when they scored the final 15 times they touched the ball in a 129-124 decision over Boston. . . . The explosive Nuggets reached their season scoring peak December 28 when they outlasted Indiana, 155-150, in overtime. The game required an extra session after Indiana's George Johnson sank three straight three-point goals in the last 30 seconds of regulation. As usual, Denver's front line of Alex English, Kiki Vandeweghe and Dan Issel led the way. In two games, the trio had more than 90 points and 30 rebounds among them, and during a three-game span, English averaged 40 points, nine rebounds and six assists. Vandeweghe also scored a career-high 49 points January 1 when the Nuggets erased a 12-point deficit in the last 6½ minutes to defeat Phoenix, 127-125.

Troubled Quintin Dailey scored 17 points in his first start with Chicago, but the Bulls bowed to Washington, 89-87, December 27 when Greg Ballard hit a long jumper at the buzzer. For the first time in five years, Seattle started a game without Jack Sikma, but the Sonics still beat Utah, 109-92, December 29. Sikma had played in 439 consecutive games before being sidelined with a sprained ankle.

HOW THEY STAND

THROUGH JANUARY 3

| Eastern Conference | | | | | Western Conference | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|------|------|--------------------|----|----|------|------|
| ATLANTIC DIVISION | | | | | MIDWEST DIVISION | | | | |
| Club | W | L | Pct. | G.B. | Club | W | L | Pct. | G.B. |
| Philadelphia | 24 | 5 | .828 | | Kansas City | 18 | 10 | .643 | |
| Boston | 23 | 8 | .742 | 2 | San Antonio | 21 | 7 | .750 | |
| New Jersey | 18 | 13 | .581 | 7 | Denver | 14 | 18 | .416 | 6 |
| Washington | 26 | 14 | .533 | 8½ | Dallas | 12 | 21 | .348 | |
| New York | 12 | 19 | .387 | 13 | Utah | 12 | 21 | .348 | |
| | | | | | Houston | 4 | 26 | .154 | 15 |

CENTRAL DIVISION

PACIFIC DIVISION

Club W L Pct. G.B.

Milwaukee 22 11 .667

Detroit 17 17 500 5½

Atlanta 14 16 467 6½

Indiana 11 19 367 9½

Chicago 10 20 333 10½

Cleveland 4 26 133 16½

Los Angeles 25 6 806

Seattle 23 9 719 2½

Phoenix 20 13 506 6

Portland 20 14 588 6½

Golden State 13 19 486 12½

San Diego 6 26 188 19½

Games of Monday, Dec. 27

New Jersey 94, Cleveland 82

Washington 89, Chicago 87

Boston 130, Golden State 128

Games of Tuesday, Dec. 28

Atlanta 123, San Diego 113

Milwaukee 113, Chicago 103

Kansas City 129, Boston 124

Philadelphia 104, Houston 93

Phoenix 116, Portland 94

Utah 105, Detroit 98 (OT)

Denver 155, Indiana 150 (OT)

Games of Saturday, Jan. 1

Denver 127, Phoenix 125

New York 94, Washington 77

New Jersey 111, Dallas 105

Boston 127, Utah 112

Portland 102, Golden State 74

Detroit 117, San Diego 105

Games of Sunday, Jan. 2

San Antonio 103, Cleveland 95

Kansas City 108, Atlanta 104

Milwaukee 103, Houston 82

Phoenix 116, Seattle 99

Portland 122, Denver 104

Golden State 114, Indiana 105

Los Angeles 127, Detroit 112

Breuer: The Gophers' 7-3 Secret

By PAUL LEVY

MINNEAPOLIS—Sampson vs. Ewing. Ewing vs. Sampson. For weeks, the pregame hype had dominated discussion of college basketball. So, when December 11 finally arrived, Randy Breuer watched the Virginia-Georgetown game on television—just like any other 7-3 college basketball fan might.

"I enjoyed it," said Breuer. "I thought it was a pretty good game, a lot better than I expected. But I thought that the overall game was a much better show than the Sampson-Ewing match was. You can't blame them. It's impossible to live up to the type of buildup they got."

Breuer has learned that from first-hand experience. Breuer and his Minnesota teammates met Sampson and Virginia for the National Invitation Tournament championship when both Breuer and Sampson were freshmen. In the tournament semifinal game against Illinois, Breuer scored 24 points. Anticipating the great matchup of the 7-foot freshmen centers, the New York tabloids had a field day.

As was the case in the Virginia-Georgetown contest, many observers felt the 1980 NIT championship game itself was better than the individual matchup of the gifted centers. And then there is the remembrance of a gentle giant of a man named Ralph Breuer, Randy's father.

"The only time we'd ever been to New York was for the NIT Randy's freshman year," he said one day between chores on his Lake City, Minn., farm. "We had a great time. We got to see two good basketball games and enough taxis to last us a lifetime."

Ralph Breuer is an imposing 6-9 and 265 pounds. Although Randy insists that his mother (5-11 Marlene Breuer) is responsible for his height, and not his father, it is obvious that Randy has inherited his father's innocence and values.

Breuer led Minnesota in scoring and rebounding the past two years and paced the Gophers to their first Big Ten basketball championship in a decade last season. He was selected the All-Big Ten first-team center a year ago and it's a near-unanimous prediction that he will repeat that status.

Despite all this, Breuer has not received the national publicity showered on other gifted 7-footers—many of them not nearly as talented. Sampson, Patrick Ewing, the disabled Sam Bowie and Steve Stipanovich have gained national notoriety. Breuer is the Midwest's best-kept secret.

All of which brings us back to Breuer's roots in Lake City, Minn., a peaceful little farming community of 4,000, about 80 miles south of the Twin Cities. It is the home of Ralph Samuelson, the inventor of water skiing. It is the home of the Old Goats Club.

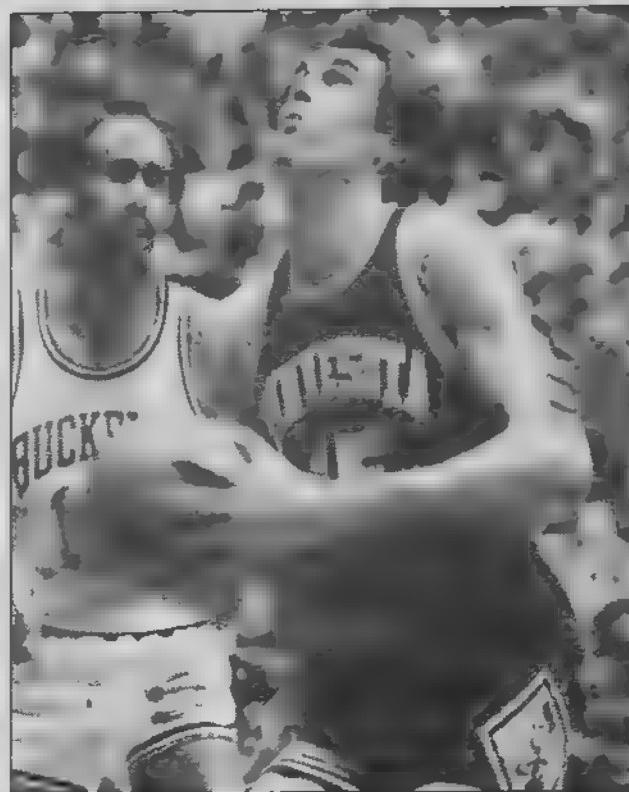
The Old Goats are a group of Lake City's elder statesmen, who are retired and can be identified by their Old Goats caps and badges. On the eve of one Minnesota game last season, the Old Goats met for an afternoon cup of coffee and discussed the 21-year-old who has become Lake City's most famous son.

Arnold Brunkhorst: "Ralph Breuer and I are cousins. Randy's his son, so I guess that makes us relatives, but I'm not sure what."

Bob Schneider: "It doesn't make any difference. We're all like family here. Everybody in Lake City knows everybody else. We've all watched Randy grow up. Good boy, that Randy."

Brunkhorst: "Don't see much of him anymore, not during the school year, anyway. I saw him a few times last summer. Saw him milking some of his folks' cows."

Reporter: "He says he hates milking the cows."



Randy Breuer . . . Minnesota's main man.

Brunkhorst: "Of course he does. He's too tall to be milking cows. Think how hard it must be for him to bend down that much and milk 20 or 30 cows."

Schneider: "His father does it and he's pretty tall."

Brunkhorst: "But not that tall."

Schneider: "You know, Randy's just like any of us here in Lake City. When he's not at the university or working on the farm, you see him in town talking to the merchants. Or you see him in church on Sundays."

Ed Nosby: "He's so tall, how can you miss him?"

Schneider: "We've all watched Randy in person one time or another. If he plays pro basketball, we'll watch him do that, too."

Norman Nibbe: "I hope he doesn't play pro basketball. It's too brutal."

Nosby: "Wonder how he'd do against Wilt Chamberlain?"

The Old Goats may never learn how Breuer might fare against Chamberlain, but they should be able to watch Breuer play professional basketball—just as they have been able to watch other ex-Gophers in the NBA.

In fact, in recent years, Minnesota has sent a slew of big men into the pros: Kevin McHale, Mychal Thompson, Mark Olberding, Jim Brewer, Ron Behagen. (Pros Mark Landsberger, Chris Engler and Steve Lingenfelter also played, although briefly, for Minnesota.)

The difference between Breuer and his predecessors at Minnesota—the difference, for that matter, between Breuer and most other promising college stars—is his nonchalant view of

the pros.

"The only outstanding players I have ever coached who did not talk about playing professional basketball are Kevin (McHale) and Randy," Minnesota Coach Jim Dutcher noted near the end of last season. "Kevin didn't mention it to me until the middle of his senior season. Randy has never even suggested it."

Don't be mistaken. Breuer would like very much to play in the NBA. But there will be time to think about that later. Sure, he spent much of last summer developing a lefthanded shot, and says he is concentrating on scoring more this year, but that, he says, is for the Minnesota Gophers and not for the NBA. Whatever.

"I want to enjoy my senior year while I can," said Breuer. "Why rush things?"

There was a time when those close to Randy feared there might be no senior year to rush through. Oh, it wasn't that Breuer was considering the NBA draft. It was just that he once considered not going to college at all.

Not that Breuer's a dummy. Other than Minnesota, the two colleges which corresponded with him most often while he was a high school recruit were Stanford and Harvard.

"One day Randy came home," shrugged Marlene Breuer, "and said, 'Mom, I've decided I don't want to go to college.'"

"I just wanted to go to a vocational school and work with my hands," explained Randy, whose grade-point average at Minnesota is approximately 3.0 of a possible 4.0. "I took a few shop classes in high school that I really enjoyed. When I was growing up on the farm, we always fixed everything ourselves. If the tractor broke down, you learned how to weld the parts. If my dirt bike or motorcycle broke down, I'd try to fix it myself—if I could."

"I'm not a great mechanic, but I can do the little things. And I love working with wood and metal. It's just too bad that tools are so expensive. To be able to use a lathe, or a power saw any time I wanted . . . that's almost a dream."

"At the time, I didn't really see the sense in me going to college. You didn't have to, to do the things I wanted to do. The Twin Cities weren't that important, since Rochester (about 35 miles away) was always the big city to me. The Twin Cities were just cities that were polluting the Mississippi River."

Breuer has since changed his mind about college, if not the Twin Cities. Although downtown Minneapolis is only a mile from the Minnesota campus, Breuer has kept his distance.

"Everything I need is on campus," said Breuer. "Besides, it's too hard to find a parking spot downtown."

Apparently, the national media has had almost as much trouble discovering Breuer as he has had finding a place to park his car. He has outplayed Big Ten notables such as Russell Cross of Purdue, Herb Williams (formerly of Ohio State), and Michael Payne of Iowa.

He has helped Minnesota to victories over North Carolina (by 16 points two years ago) and at Louisville (in 1980). In Minnesota's regular-season finale—the Big Ten title game against Ohio State last season—Breuer scored a career-high 32 points.

The Gophers were off to a 7-1 start this season, and in their 106-66 victory over Marquette, Breuer had 23 points and blocked seven shots. Still, this 7-3 All-America candidate goes unnoticed.

"I'm not jealous of the publicity others get," said Breuer. "They say good things come to those who wait. I've just waited a little longer than some of the others."

Why Are Colleges Changing Their Game?

By MICHAEL WILBON

WASHINGTON—Some would say the sport was almost perfect. Captivating games, sold-out arenas, soaring television ratings, nutty, charismatic coaches. Just about perfect, nothing to tamper with.

But they went and fixed college basketball anyway, when nothing was broken. Between April and August, 13 major conferences adopted shot clocks and/or three-point field goals.

"One day, James Naismith is going to wake up and not recognize his own game," said George Raveling, coach at Washington State.

More tampering followed in September when the NCAA Council decided that 88 schools which emphasize basketball as their prime sport would have to meet newly formulated scholarship and attendance requirements or relinquish Division I status. That ruling, in effect, made size, not quality, the determining factor in whether a basketball program was successful.

So the 1982-83 college basketball season began with more confusion than was necessary. The rules changes are baffling enough.

As Georgia Coach Hugh Durham said recently, "I feel sorry for the basketball fan who turns on his television Tuesday night and watches the SEC play with a 45-second shot clock, then on Wednesday night sees the ACC play with a 30-second clock and 19-foot arc, then on Thursday night watches the Big Ten play with a 22-foot arc and no clock."

There has already been enough experimentation with the 19-foot three-point field goal to declare it legally insane and at

the same time a bundle of fun.

At a preseason game between Maryland and Athletes in Action, Maryland's Pete Holbert lined his feet behind the 19-foot line, then took a lean-in jumper. The referee's arm went up to signal a three-point shot.

By the time Holbert released the shot, his momentum had carried him at least three feet closer to the basket. His 16-footer counted for three points.

Athletes in Action, having never played before with a field-goal arc, made six of eight three-point attempts.

"We've allowed the media and the fans to dictate how the game will be played," said Washington State's Raveling, one of the nation's most outspoken critics of the experimental rules. "I'm mystified. Last March in New Orleans, only one coach out of about 300 voted in favor of rules changes. Then, all of a sudden, we've got all these conferences with clocks and three-point field goals."

"College attendance is up every year, television ratings too," Raveling continued. "We're going to tinker with the product until it's unhealthy. We're supposed to give an alternative to the NBA, not imitate it."

Ralph Miller, coach at Oregon State, agreed. "Let them have their rules," Miller said. "I'm still going to play my passing game. If people want to see the NBA, let them go to NBA games. I cannot find any way that putting a clock into basketball doesn't stereotype the game."

"It's emphasizing one-on-one play and not the team concept," Miller said. "The college game without the clock is very popular. We're still building bigger arenas, more games are on

television. What are we doing experimenting with rules that have proven to be unsuccessful?"

"Not only that," Miller continued, "but they (the rules) take away the right of a coach to determine what's best for his team. What happens when you play against a physically superior team? You've got to throw it up anyway."

Raveling was asked if there was any significance in the fact that the conferences adopting rules changes are primarily in the East.

"I think there was a nuclear explosion out East and the fallout damaged the damn coaches' brain cells," he said.

Of a dozen coaches interviewed on the changes in college basketball—including Michigan State's Jud Heathcote, DePaul's Ray Meyer, Arkansas' Eddie Sutton, Notre Dame's Digger Phelps, Boston College's Gary Williams and Georgetown's John Thompson—most agreed that the new rules would aid talented teams and cause fewer upsets.

Smaller schools that have relied on patience, discipline and smarts now have to match jump shots with 6-8 greyhounds.

Then again, if the NCAA Council has its way, those small, basketball-oriented schools won't be in Division I long enough to worry about shot clocks and three-point field goals.

The NCAA Council voted overwhelmingly several weeks ago to recommend that schools which do not have Division I-A or I-AA football must maintain an average of 3,500 fans per home game or have a total attendance of 110,000 for the season. In addition, those schools must offer at least eight varsity men's sports, and must offer at least 50 percent of the maximum

(Continued on Page 54, Column 3)

Knicks Sagging at Center

WASHINGTON—When Hubie Brown took over as coach of the New York Knicks, one of the major decisions he had to make was what to do about his center.

After two stand-out seasons, Bill Cartwright had tailed off last year. His scoring average dropped from 20 points a game to 14, and he never had been a rebounding force.

With the trade of Maurice Lucas—the team's leading rebounder—to Phoenix for Truck Robinson, the Knicks obviously were going to need more board strength.

After a lot of film watching, Brown was confident that he could teach Cartwright to be an intimidating defender. Now that decision is haunting him.

While erratic play by the guards has drawn the most criticism for the Knicks' poor start, the ineptitude in the middle has been just as costly.

Cartwright is averaging just 6.2 rebounds a game and blocked only 39 shots in 28 games. His scoring average is a disappointing 12.6.

Marvin Webster? Yes, he's still here, but this once promising player spends more time in the whirlpool than he does on the court and when he is in the game, he rarely leaves any lasting impressions.

"I'd like to see more consistency from both players," Brown said when asked about his 7-foot enigmas. "We want them to go after every shot without worrying about fouls."

What Brown had in mind when the season started was for Cartwright and Webster to form the same type of defensive combination he had in Atlanta with Tree Rollins and Steve Hawes. Rollins, the league's second ranking shot-blocker last year, could play recklessly without concern for fouling because Hawes was waiting in the wings.

Obviously, this plan isn't working for the last-place Knicks. First of all, Cartwright is too passive, and that's difficult to change. Secondly, when he sits down, the point-starved Knicks

lose whatever offensive threat they have in the middle. In his last four seasons in New York, Webster never has averaged more than 6.2 points a game. Webster is on the last year of his \$600,000-a-year contract and obviously won't be back. Cartwright's trade value has plunged.

No matter how much money Gulf & Western spends, no matter who winds up in the backcourt, it is difficult to imagine the Knicks challenging Philadelphia or Boston as long as they're depending on Cartwright as their center.

* * *

Gene Shue was voted Coach of the Year last season for guiding the Washington Bullets into the playoffs. If they make it again, he should be proclaimed Coach of the Decade. . . . Despite injuries to both starting guards, plus Spencer Haywood and Kevin Grevey, the Bullets won nine of 14 games in December. . . . Don Collins has a stress fracture of his left foot and will be sidelined for six weeks. . . . Grevey, who missed the first month with a pulled abdominal muscle, scored 41 points in his first two starts replacing Collins. . . . Bryan Warrick, a second-round pick from St. Joseph's, is starting in place of Frank Johnson, who has bone chips in his right elbow, but Kevin Porter is averaging 20 minutes a game as his replacement. . . . Greg Ballard had a season-high 37 points against Atlanta, then hit a game-winning shot in the final seconds against Chicago.

Philadelphia completed a rare three-game sweep of Texas (Houston, San Antonio, Dallas) with a 126-116 overtime decision before a sellout crowd in Dallas. Moses Malone had 32 points, 24 rebounds and five blocked shots.

Boston had a five-day break around Christmas, but apparently it wasn't long enough to straighten out all the problems. The Celtics returned to action at Kansas City and were beaten by the Kings. . . . Kevin McHale, regarded by many as the NBA's best sixth man, says he'll test the free agent market when his contract expires at the end of the season.

Just when he had finally landed a starting role in New Jersey, Mike O'Koren broke his right wrist and will be sidelined eight to 10 weeks. After backing up Albert King for most of the season, the third-year veteran from North Carolina started three straight games at guard. . . . Despite a recent four-game winning streak, Coach Larry Brown still is shuffling his backcourt constantly. The latest combination is Otis Birdsong and Darwin Cook.

Cooper Finds Center Stage

LOS ANGELES—At the time it was made, the trade last June that sent Kelvin Ransey from Portland, where he was the starting point guard, to Dallas for backup center Wayne Cooper and a 1985 first-round draft choice looked like a case of grand larceny.

The Mavericks, who originally asked for the Trail Blazers' reserve point guard, Darnell Valentine, were as stunned as everyone else when Portland Coach Jack Ramsay offered Ransey instead. As one NBA general manager said, "Unless Ransey has cancer, that trade is impossible to figure."

So how do you figure it now?

Ransey, one of the league's top point guards last year, couldn't beat out Brad Davis for a place in Dallas' starting lineup and he has been ineffective coming off the bench. Mavericks officials call his play "mystifying."

As for Cooper, he has become the Trail Blazers' starting center, allowing Mychal Thompson finally to move to his natural position at power forward. Kenny Carr, who was starting at power forward, has proved better in a reserve role.

The result is that an imposing frontline became even more imposing. After the lineup was jiggled, the Trail Blazers won seven of their next eight games. They split with Seattle and beat Los Angeles when Cooper blocked a shot by Bob McAdoo that would have tied the game in the final seconds.

In his fifth NBA season, playing for his fourth team after stops at Golden State, Utah and Dallas, the 6-10 Cooper has arrived.

"That's something that's been following me throughout my career," Cooper said of his reputation as a journeyman. "But I've never been anywhere where I had the opportunity to play 30 minutes a game. When you move around a lot and play for losing teams, people look at you different. This year and last are the only times I've really played center."

"I'm beginning to feel comfortable in the NBA. At first, I was very nervous. I'm at the stage of learning the game. I don't think I've reached my potential yet. There still is a lot of room for improvement, but I think I've improved every year except for the year at Utah when it didn't seem as if I got going."

But, for the time being at least, he has quieted his critics. And Ramsay's critics.

* * *

The Trail Blazers were the hottest team in the division until they ran into Bill Walton. With doctor's permission to play twice a week, the 6-11 center was facing his former team for the first time since he sued the organization several years ago because of what he considered poor medical treatment. Walton responded with 25 points, eight rebounds and seven assists in 38 minutes of a 112-105 San Diego victory, his first in a regular-season game since 1979.

Contrary to reports here and elsewhere, the Clippers insist they are not attempting to trade power forward Tom Chambers. . . . After Dallas escaped with a close victory at San Diego, Mavericks Coach Dick Motta said of the Clippers, "They're as good as anybody we've played all year. With everyone healthy, I put money on it that the Clippers make the playoffs."

Golden State's Michael Ray Richardson, acquired before the season from New York, reportedly complained to Warriors Coach Al Attles that he and World B. Free couldn't coexist in the same backcourt. Richardson said his poor start was a result of Free's selfishness. Free has been traded to Cleveland for Ron Brewer. It was ironic that Richardson should complain because his teammates in New York said basically the same thing about him—that he was too selfish. . . . Los Angeles center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar almost missed a game at San Diego because of a migraine headache, caused by eating a box of popcorn that Coach Pat Riley gave him for Christmas.

After slumping while guard David Thompson recovered from a swollen knee, Seattle won four straight after his return. Included was a victory over Portland when Thompson scored 31 points. The Sonics' streak was snapped when the Trail Blazers held Thompson to four points. "I feel like an old man, but the knee feels good with my new brace," Thompson said. . . . Seattle power forward Lonnie Shelton missed a workout and was replaced in the starting lineup for one game by Ray Tolbert.

Solid Bench Saves Bucks

DETROIT—The name—Milwaukee Bucks—is the same but that's about all.

The National Basketball Association standings show Milwaukee leading the Central Division, the same team that's won the division title in the two years since the most recent NBA realignment.

A year ago that meant Bob Lanier and Quinn Buckner and Mickey Johnson and Brian Winters were all having good seasons.

This year it means Don Nelson, on the hot seat because of the controversial trades that stripped the Bucks of Buckner and Johnson, is doing a superb job of piecing together a lineup that is different almost every night.

Dave Cowens, whose acquisition cost Milwaukee Buckner, missed 15 early-season games. With the 1982-83 campaign just over 30 games old, Sidney Moncrief is the only member of the Bucks to appear in every game. Lanier is out of action after arthroscopic surgery on his right knee, Steve Mix is sidelined with a severely sprained right ankle and Winters has a pulled hamstring.

In their places, Alton Lister and Paul Pressey, Charlie Criss, Harvey Catchings and Phil Ford have had to fill the gaps, along with Moncrief and always reliable Marques Johnson and Junior Bridgeman.

"If your bench doesn't come through in a situation like this, you're in for a long year," concedes Nelson, who picked up Paul Mokeski recently as added insurance during Lanier's recuperation. "It's a super time for a lot of them to get a chance. They're playing 18 to 22 minutes."

The Bucks have surprised those who thought they not only were too old, but had made a terrible mistake in trading Buckner and Mickey Johnson. Critics felt the Bucks could never survive the outbreak of injuries, but they continue to cruise along ahead of Atlanta and Detroit, their early-season competition in the Central Division.

Nelson admits, though, the rash of injuries has caused some revision in his goals.

Before the season, he had hoped the Bucks could finish with the best record in the entire Eastern Conference, insuring them the home-court advantage when the playoffs opened.

"I thought that was a definite possibility at the start of the season, but after all our injuries, I don't think we can set the same goals," he said. "The real key now is to finish first in our division."

NBA
ATLANTIC

By
STEVE HERSHY

NBA
CENTRAL

By
CHARLIE VINCENT

By having Lanier's surgery done in December, the Bucks hope the 35-year-old center—who has said this will probably be his final season—will be healthy in time for the late-season drive and the playoffs.

Through 34 games, the Bucks played just 14 teams with 50-plus records, and they've yet to play a single game west of Kansas City. They first see the West Coast late in January, and by that time Nelson hopes to have everybody healthy.

* * *

The Detroit Pistons, unable to swing a deal for a power forward, took their injured forwards, Kelly Tripucka and Kent Benson, on their six-game, 10-day Western trip ending January 4, just to begin integrating them into the club again.

Chicago center Dave Corzine had his best game of the season in a losing effort to Washington just before New Year's, scoring 18 points and outmuscling Rick Mahorn and Jeff Ruland for 22 rebounds.

Atlanta Coach Kevin Loughery would like to establish a three forward, three-guard, two-center rotation that would allow him to use just eight players extensively. So far, he's having trouble finding a third guard and third forward. Tom McMillen, just off the injured list, is getting a shot at the backup forward spot. The most pleasant happening in Atlanta? Rory Sparrow, who continues to establish himself as a legitimate NBA guard with performances like his head-to-head confrontations with Chicago's Reggie Theus, which Sparrow won, 23 points to 17 and 30 to 17.

WHERE THEY PLAY

January 7—Philadelphia at Washington, Dallas at Atlanta, Phoenix at Indiana, New Jersey at Chicago, Detroit at Milwaukee, Boston at San Antonio, Utah at Kansas City, Houston at Denver

January 8—Los Angeles at New York, Kansas City at Philadelphia, Chicago at Atlanta, Washington at Cleveland, Boston at Dallas, Utah at Houston, Denver at San Diego, Seattle at Golden State

January 9—Detroit at New Jersey, Phoenix at Milwaukee, Seattle at Portland

January 11—Los Angeles at New Jersey, Golden State at New York, Philadelphia at Atlanta, Phoenix at Chicago, San Diego at Houston, Dallas at San Antonio, Kansas City at Utah, Denver at Seattle

January 12—Golden State at Boston, Milwaukee at Philadelphia, Chicago at Cleveland, Washington at Detroit, New Jersey at Indiana, San Diego at Dallas, San Antonio at Kansas City, Utah at Denver

January 13—Cleveland at Milwaukee, Seattle at Phoenix

January 14—New Jersey at Boston, Golden State at Washington, New York at Atlanta, Philadelphia at Detroit, Chicago at Indiana, Denver at Dallas, Houston at San Antonio, Kansas City at San Diego, Portland at Seattle

January 15—New York at New Jersey, Indiana at Philadelphia, Los Angeles at Atlanta, Boston at Cleveland, Milwaukee at Chicago, Denver at Houston, Washington at San Antonio, Dallas at Utah, San Diego at Phoenix, Kansas City at Portland

January 16—Golden State at Milwaukee, Utah at San Diego, Kansas City at Seattle



STEVE HERSHY

STEVE HERSHY</p

Nuggets' Kiki Is a Nonconformist

By TERRY FREI

DENVER—Denver Nuggets forward Kiki Vandeweghe always had the pedigree.

His father, Ernie, played for the New York Knicks before becoming a doctor. His mother, as Colleen Hutchins, was Miss America and later a Broadway actress. His family home was in West Los Angeles, one of the more plush of the plush suburbs.

So this isn't a "he-scratched-his-way-to-the-NBA" story.

Or is it?

Ten years ago, Ernest Maurice Vandeweghe II—now a 21-point scorer for the Nuggets—was one of the top junior swimmers in the country, an Olympic prospect. Basketball, much more the inner-city game and much quicker than when his father was playing, was something at which Kiki had only dabbed.

Then, at age 14, he retired from competitive swimming, before he could become a has-been. His father, who was so concerned about the pressure of modern athletics on children that he wrote a book ("Growing With Sports") about it, was less than thrilled.

"He told me to stay with swimming, that's what he told me," Kiki said. "I'd always been a good swimmer, and I just wasn't having any fun any more. Before I let myself slip, I decided I was better off to quit, to get out of it on top. I wasn't willing to put the effort into it any more, to be that good."

A week later, he enrolled at John Wooden's basketball camp. Two years later, he was making daily trips for pickup games into Watts, where he received a test of will—and a little assist from Sidney Wicks, a former star forward on Wooden's perennial NCAA champions at UCLA, then a starter in the National Basketball Association.

"I was the only white guy playing," said Vandeweghe. "I was out there, and a guy got upset at me. He was a lot bigger than I was, and he started coming after me and took a couple of swings at me. Luckily, I had the foresight to duck and not swing back. Sidney Wicks came up and grabbed him from behind."

Wicks also told Vandeweghe to get back in his 1969 Mustang, to head home and let tempers cool off—for his own good. The next day, Vandeweghe was back. It was part of a basketball education that funneled him into a solid but unspectacular career at UCLA, capped by his selection by the Dallas Mavericks in the first round of the 1980 NBA draft.

There was one problem: Vandeweghe never signed with the Mavericks, holding out until he was obtained by the Nuggets in midseason. Soon, he was established as one of the best pure shooters in the NBA (56 percent last season), and as part of the league's top-scoring front line, along with center Dan Issel and forward Alex English.

To this day, Vandeweghe is booed every time he touches the ball in games at Dallas, where his holdout was depicted as a case of the pampered, affluent kid being given bad advice by



Kiki Vandeweghe . . . His own man.

his father, who wanted his son to play for his old team in New York.

"It was really my decision," said Kiki. "Dallas wanted a scapegoat. They didn't want to blame me, because they were hoping I would play there. So they decided my father would be a good guy. He's been blamed for various things before, he's a very prominent figure in the Los Angeles sports community. So it was really an unfortunate circumstance. It was their prerogative, but it wasn't right. I kept trying to tell everyone the way it was, but the Mavericks were in control of the Dallas papers, and I didn't have much say in the matter."

That Kiki is his own man is undeniable to those who know him. At the very least, he is not a conformist.

After a big season with the Nuggets in 1981-82, his first full year with the club, he was eligible to test the free-agent market last summer. The year before, English did so, and got a \$700,000-per-year offer sheet from Seattle, which the Nuggets matched. Issel, also a free agent last summer, looked around, but didn't get any offers and re-signed with the Nuggets for \$575,000. Vandeweghe, though, said last spring that he would re-sign with the Nuggets unless they offered him Monopoly money, and he agreed to a new four-year contract without seeking other offers. "In a nutshell," he said, "I like the city, my

teammates, my coach (Doug Moe) and the organization."

A quiet and soft-spoken man who was a Rhodes scholarship candidate at UCLA, Vandeweghe heard everyone tell him he ought to look for a house in the southeast Denver suburbs, within a short drive of the area's brightest night life, and where just about every pro athlete settles. Vandeweghe instead bought a condominium in Capitol Hill, the neighborhood just south of downtown with the counterculture—or subculture—reputation.

"I just feel more comfortable in that area," said Vandeweghe. "I looked a lot, and southeast Denver was where they all told me to go. That's a nice area, but it's not for me. I like Capitol Hill, it's an area that was run down, and now it's coming back, and I enjoy that. It's not the singles capital of the world, but that's all right with me. I don't really enjoy that."

Another certainty. He doesn't spend all his money on clothes. Well, he did pay \$500 for one sweater, the white cardigan his teammates jokingly swear he never takes off on the road—or always is below his UCLA letter jacket. At an auction to benefit the Special Olympics in the preseason, Vandeweghe had been persuaded to donate his "famous" sweater. But before it could be put up for auction, Vandeweghe approached the auctioneer—local sportscaster Ron Zappo—and paid \$500 to buy his own sweater back.

"What could I do?" Vandeweghe said the next day. "It's the only sweater I own."

On the floor, he still has some rough edges, especially on defense and in rebounding. Sometimes, it's bad enough to drive Moe crazy.

The relationship between coach and player is cordial off the court, but during the games, it's hot and cold. Moe doesn't need to diagram plays in his timeouts, since the Nuggets don't have any. So he seemingly spends much of his time in the breaks hollering at Vandeweghe, trying to get him to play tougher defense, to hit the boards, and to be more assertive offensively.

"He was playing very well this year, then he started to go a little bad," said Moe. "Sometimes, I'll get on him, then I'll lay off him for a while. But when your defense and rebounding has been as bad as his has been at times, you just can't let it go."

"I'm not saying I expect him to be a great rebounder, or a great defensive player. But I do expect him to be better than awful."

When the Nuggets started slowly this season, club management started to explore possible trades, saying that no one on the roster was untouchable. Not Issel. Not English. Not Vandeweghe. And Vandeweghe's name has been mentioned in many of the inevitable rumors—apparently correctly to the extent that the Nuggets were willing to listen to offers for him.

"I don't want to be traded," he said. "I don't think it's something you can worry about. Every player can be traded at one time or another, and all you can do is play hard, and make them want to keep you."

Blackman's Star on Rise

DALLAS—During his rookie season, the nervous twitch was usually in high gear. A pocket schedule was Rolando Blackman's worst enemy. He would look at it and see upcoming games in which he'd be matched against the top shooting guards in the league—Dennis Johnson, David Thompson, World Free, Andrew Toney, Otis Birdsong, George Gervin.

Blackman would analyze his opponents, then his game, then his shortcomings. He'd wonder who would embarrass him the most. He'd get so nervous that he'd shake. He knew he was going to make mistakes.

"The ability was there," said Blackman. "It was just the mental part to bring it out and to keep doing it each and every time, to accept mistakes and use them positively instead of negatively."

A year later, Blackman is a veteran instead of a rookie. He knows he belongs. And after two months of the season, he has been the Dallas Mavericks' most consistent player. When Dallas visits another city now, the question is not only, "How will Rolando Blackman do against David Thompson?" but also, "How will David Thompson do against Rolando Blackman?"

"I think it's turning around a little bit," said Blackman, who started for the 1980 U.S. Olympic team. "They have to be aware of me. I'm not sure they are going to change their game plan or anything like that. They're just going to have to be aware. They cannot take me lightly. I'm going to do my best each and every night. When I rise to the peak, that's a great game."

And that's not cockiness. That's Blackman, whose speech is a mixture of Latin American and New York. He is a little of both. He was born in Panama and reared in Brooklyn. His sentences are short, quick spurts, somewhat like the stutter step he uses to get around defenders. But he is not obnoxious, merely confi-

**NBA
MIDWEST**

By
JAN HUBBARD

dent

And the confidence is the major difference between the second-year Blackman and the rookie. It arrived late last season, blossomed during the summer and in training camp, and now it is thriving so well that Blackman sometimes laughs at himself when he explains why he is confident.

"My confidence is based, first of all, on my belief in my own ability. I can play basketball against anybody in this league, unless there's another league outside the universe that I can't play in," he said. Then he laughed. "In this league, I know I can play."

Statistics support that belief. Although Mark Aguirre is the leading Dallas scorer, Blackman is the only Maverick who has scored in double figures every game. For the season, he is averaging 20.5 points and connecting on 54.3 percent of his shots. He has been the leading Dallas scorer nine times. The Mavericks have won seven of those games.

"He's improved a lot," said Dallas Coach Dick Motta. "It's normal growth more than anything. His worst enemy is himself, his hot blood. He seems to be calming down a great deal. He's starting to trust me and he's not as threatened."

Part of Blackman's uncertainty last season came from Motta's desire to bring him off the bench. Blackman is capable of quick scoring bursts, and Motta likes to have someone like that coming off the bench. But Blackman badly wants to start, and when he doesn't, he gets so uptight that it affects his play.

"I still should be playing him off the bench," said Motta. "That's where he would be the best for me. But he's truly the type of person who is going to be the most productive as a starter. I've pretty much come to that conclusion. I think he's happier."

And happiness may be the final ingredient Blackman needs before reaching greatness. He still encounters problems against some of the more physical guards in the league—Dennis Johnson and Vinnie Johnson, for instance. But with normal growth, he should overcome that problem, too, especially since his best trait is his ability to work and practice hard.

"With his work habits," said Motta, "and if he goes without an injury, there's no reason he can't play in an All-Star game in two years."

NBA Statistics

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

| Scoring | | | |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|
| G. | Pls. | Avg. | |
| Dantley, Utah | 22 | 676 | 50.7 |
| English, Denver | 32 | 932 | 29.1 |
| Gervin, San Antonio | 30 | 849 | 28.3 |
| Theus, Chicago | 30 | 812 | 27.1 |
| Vandeweghe, Denver | 32 | 774 | 24.2 |
| Malone, Philadelphia | 29 | 690 | 23.8 |
| Bird, Boston | 31 | 724 | 23.4 |
| Issel, Denver | 32 | 724 | 22.6 |
| Thomas, Detroit | 34 | 762 | 22.4 |
| King, New York | 51 | 694 | 22.4 |
| Griffith, Utah | 30 | 665 | 22.2 |
| Free, Cleveland | 26 | 576 | 22.2 |
| Erving, Philadelphia | 29 | 642 | 22.1 |
| Aguirre, Dallas | 29 | 641 | 22.1 |
| Cummings, San Diego | 27 | 596 | 22.1 |
| Carroll, Golden State | 30 | 650 | 21.7 |
| Short, Golden State | 32 | 681 | 21.3 |
| E. Johnson, Kansas City | 28 | 590 | 21.1 |
| Johnson, Milwaukee | 31 | 652 | 21.0 |
| Paxson, Portland | 34 | 710 | 20.9 |

| Assists | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------|-----|
| G. | No. | Avg. | |
| Green, Utah | 33 | 319 | 9.7 |
| E. Johnson, Los Angeles | 31 | 290 | 9.4 |
| Drew, Kansas City | 27 | 240 | 8.9 |
| Cheeks, Philadelphia | 28 | 242 | 8.6 |
| Moore, San Antonio | 33 | 275 | 8.3 |
| Johnson, Washington | 24 | 198 | 8.3 |
| Houston, Cleveland | 29 | 228 | 7.9 |
| Williams, Seattle | 30 | 226 | 7.5 |
| Richardson, Golden State | 21 | 155 | 7.4 |
| Thomas, Detroit | 34 | 246 | 7.2 |

| Field Goal Percentage | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|------|------|
| FGM | FGA | Pct. | |
| Williams, New Jersey | 192 | 312 | .615 |
| S. Johnson, Kansas City | 130 | 213 | .610 |
| Dawkins, New Jersey | 135 | 223 | .605 |
| L. Smith, Golden State | 129 | 215 | .600 |
| Gilmore, San Antonio | 187 | 314 | .596 |
| Dantley, Utah | 233 | 402 | .580 |
| Davis, Dallas | 139 | 242 | .574 |
| Abdul-Jabbar, Los Ang. | 247 | 437 | .565 |
| E. Johnson, L. A. | 185 | 329 | .562 |
| Parish, Boston | 208 | 370 | .562 |

| Steals | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------|-----|
| G. | No. | Avg. | |
| Green, Utah | 33 | 319 | 9.7 |
| E. Johnson, Los Angeles | 31 | 290 | 9.4 |
| Drew, Kansas City | 27 | 240 | 8.9 |
| Cheeks, Philadelphia | 28 | 242 | 8.6 |
| Moore, San Antonio | 33 | 275 | 8.3 |
| Johnson, Washington | 24 | 198 | 8.3 |
| Houston, Cleveland | 29 | 228 | 7.9 |
| Williams, Seattle | 30 | 226 | 7.5 |
| Richardson, Golden State | 21 | 155 | 7.4 |
| Thomas, Detroit | 34 | 246 | 7.2 |

| Free Throw Percentage | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|------|------|
| FTM | FTA | Pct. | |
| Gervin, San Antonio | 235 | 269 | .874 |
| Macy, Phoenix | 62 | 72 | .861 |
| Knight, Indianapolis | 121 | 141 | .858 |
| Tripiukas, Detroit | 89 | 104 | .856 |
| Vandeweghe, Denver | 175 | 205 | .854 |
| Brewer, Golden State | 64 | 75 | .853 |
| Short, Golden State | 133 | 156 | .853 |
| Issel, Denver | 187 | 220 | .850 |
| Wedman, Cleveland | 51 | 60 | |

HOCKEY HOTLINE

For Pete's Sake

Boston Bruins goaltender Pete Peeters had only three shutouts in 129 games over his three-plus seasons in the NHL with the Philadelphia Flyers before being traded to Boston in June. After blanking the St. Louis Blues, 3-0, December 28, Peeters already had four shutouts this season and sported the league's best goals-against average of 2.36. Peeters also extended his personal unbeaten streak to 15 games (12-0-3).

Being in the limelight is nothing new for Peeters, who had a 27-game unbeaten streak as a rookie in 1979-80. Will McDonough of the Boston Globe recently asked Peeters how he was saddled with a name like Peter Peeters. He got this answer.

"Oh, it's a family name," the goaltender replied. "My father is Peter Peeters. His father was Peter Peeters. My great grandfather was Peter Peeters."

Will the Peter Peeters line continue?

"When my wife was pregnant with my son, my folks asked if I was going to name him Peter," Peeters recalled. "I told them I was going to name him Sue, like Johnny Cash's song. Anything but Pete."

What name did Peeters and his wife choose?

"Jeremy," Peeters said. "I guess I'm the last of the line. The old name has just . . . petered out."

Trade Whispers Getting Louder

Through the grapevine in recent days have come some very interesting names involving possible trades: Ron Duguay of the New York Rangers, Glen Hanlon of St. Louis, Paul Gardner of Pittsburgh, Real Cloutier of Quebec, Behn Wilson of Philadelphia, Dave Christian of Winnipeg and the Stastny brothers of Quebec.

According to several informed sources, a trade of Duguay to St. Louis for Hanlon plus perhaps young defenseman Jim Pavese is on the front burner. St. Louis G.M. Emile Francis indicated that several clubs were asking about Hanlon, formerly the No. 1 goaltender at Vancouver, but that most of them were offering goalies in return. Francis said he didn't need any more goalies. Should a trade of Hanlon to the Rangers or Quebec fall through, Philadelphia G.M. Keith Allen has put forth a firm offer for Blues left winger Perry Turnbull.

Pittsburgh Coach Eddie Johnston vowed a shakeup after the Penguins lost to St. Louis, 6-5, December 29. His first move was to put defenseman Pat Price on irrevocable waivers. The two had a shouting match in the locker room after the loss. Twelve hours later, Price was dispatched without recall. The next step, according to insiders, is the trade of Gardner to Quebec. That deal reportedly was all but made earlier.

Philadelphia defenseman Wilson would be part and parcel of a Flyers deal with St. Louis for Turnbull, but Chicago is also said to be hot on Wilson's trail. Christian, who is one of Winnipeg Coach Tom Watt's favorites, reportedly is being offered around by Jets G.M. John Ferguson. Earlier reports had Christian going to Quebec for Cloutier. Should the Duguay-to-St. Louis deal fall through, a trade of Christian to the Rangers might make sense since Coach Herb Brooks is partial to players he had on the 1980 U.S. Olympic team.

Finally, with Peter Stastny out of action for an indefinite period with a knee injury, the echoes of a Stastny trade en masse has been put on hold. The brothers from Czechoslovakia want out of Quebec. Their families aren't comfortable with the French-speaking province's lifestyle. Earlier, the Stastny brothers—still under contract with the Nordiques but unhappy because the Canadian dollar has been devalued—indicated they would prefer playing in California. The Los Angeles Kings might just be ripe for such an acquisition later this season.

A Gusher for Oilers Coach

Glen Sather may be taking a lot of heat from Edmonton Oilers fans to step down as coach, but he said recently it doesn't bother him. "I'm not going to let what just a few of our fans think influence me to quit," said Sather.

Sather can't say everything he touches turns to gold because the Oilers were knocked out of the playoffs early in each of the last three seasons. But he does have a magic touch.

Recently, Sather invested \$22,000 to buy 5 percent of an inactive oil well. It suddenly began producing the black gold at a rate of 600 barrels a day. Regular income is now estimated at \$6 million annually.

Hotline Hearsay

Some Toronto fans have become so irate over Coach Mike Nykoluk that one of them recently attacked the photo of Nykoluk that hangs in the west lobby at Maple Leaf Gardens, shattering the glass covering. . . . Several Toronto sources indicate the New York Rangers might be looking to break up their Maloney brothers combination. Left winger Don would stay with the Broadway Blueshirts while defenseman Dave could wind up elsewhere, according to the reports.

How is hockey like basketball? You have to teach a fast break akin to that in basketball, according to Chicago Coach Orval Tessier. The fast break forces the other team's hand and causes turnovers.



By LARRY WIGGE,
Associate News Editor



Pete Peeters . . . Passing down zeroes.

"Coaches and general managers complicate this game," Tessier reasons. "Hockey is not football. The key in hockey is how fast you get out of your zone."

The New York Rangers recalled their first-round draft choice, left wing Chris Kontos from the Toronto Juniors. Meanwhile, the Detroit Red Wings recalled center Murray Craven from Medicine Hat. Another No. 1 pick recalled was right winger Rich Sutter, brought up by Pittsburgh from Lethbridge. The Rangers are also expecting their 1981 No. 1 choice, defenseman Jim Patrick, to leave the University of North Dakota after his sophomore year and turn pro.

Buffalo rookie Hannu Virta says he studied the English language for four or five years in Finland. But some words were still strange when he joined the Sabres.

"I take English for four, five years in school, but it was, you know, so-so," Virta said. "Now I understand most everything but sometimes speaking is pretty hard."

Another Sabres rookie, Mike Moller, rooms with Virta. He's been an enormous help. One thing that isn't new to Virta is playing hockey.

"I know my way to the rink and in the rink everything is the same. Hockey in Finland, Sweden, Canada, USA—all the same," he said.

The Chicago Black Hawks reunited two-thirds of the famous Montreal Juniors line called Trois Denis. Denis Savard, Denis Cyr and Denis Tremblay all were born on February 4, 1961. Chicago drafted Savard No. 1 in 1979 and recently acquired Cyr in a trade with the Calgary Flames. What has happened with the third member of this much feared junior scoring unit? Tremblay is now working as a postman in Montreal and has no plans to join his former teammates. . . . There's an interesting statistic showing how important Barry Beck is to the New York Rangers. When the giant defenseman was sidelined for two weeks with a severe groin injury, Hugh Delano of the New York Post pointed out that the Rangers had won only 10 of 34 games (10-17-7) in which Beck was absent from the lineup.

Newcomers Gaston Gingras and Danny Daoust were the best players for the Toronto Maple Leafs in the first few games they played with their new team after being acquired from Montreal for a pair of future draft choices. Gingras and Daoust, incidentally, became only the fourth and fifth players to wear the hallowed colors of both the Maple Leafs and Canadiens in the same season. Only 38 players to have worn the colors of both Montreal and Toronto over the years. . . . Marc Habscheid has pushed Tom Roulston back to Edmonton's fifth center. A deal could be brewing for Roulston.

Plus-minus statistics are a major part of the NHL player's life, but they aren't the end-all figure. While they do figure as an incentive in the standard player's contract, Vancouver Coach Roger Neilson recently spoke out against the whole idea of being given credit (a plus) when you really don't contribute to a positive end by someone else on the ice. Likewise, he wonders why a player should be penalized for a teammate's mistake.

Neilson pointed to the faux pas by Vancouver defenseman Lars Lindgren, when he mistakenly shot a pass into his own net in a game against Edmonton earlier this season.

All of the Canucks players (except the goaltender) was charged with a minus on the play, leading Neilson to crack: "It's like giving the left fielder an error when the right fielder drops the ball."

Will Tretiak Join Canadiens in 1984?

On a day when reports surfaced that Soviet goaltender Vladislav Tretiak hopes to end his career by playing for the Montreal Canadiens, the diminutive netminder showed the Canadiens just what they could expect from him if he does come to North America following the 1984 Winter Olympics.

Tretiak, who had the flu and missed the Russians' 4-3 loss to

Edmonton in the opener of their six-game tour of NHL cities, shook off his illness and posted back-to-back shutouts over the Quebec Nordiques (3-0 on December 30) and the Canadiens (by a 5-0 count December 31).

Those were the first two shutouts in 30 games against NHL competition for the 30-year-old Tretiak, who would not comment further on his dream to play for the Canadiens following the '84 Olympics. He has mentioned that dream on several occasions, but said he would have to get approval from the Soviet hockey officials for such a move.

On January 2, the Soviets journeyed to Calgary for the fourth game of their series and lost to the Flames, 3-2, evening the series at two games apiece.

Flyers Soar with Lindbergh as Pilot

All Pelle Lindbergh ever asked for was a chance to show that he was a good goaltender. Now, with Pete Peeters traded to Boston and Rick St. Croix having seen only limited action after Flyers Coach Bob McCammon started calling Pelle's number, Lindbergh has led Philadelphia to six straight road victories, tying the club record.

The Flyers tied that record with a 3-1 victory over Chicago January 2. The Black Hawks had won 11 straight games at home and were unbeaten in their last 16 games at Chicago Stadium.

Of course, no one really had to tell McCammon about the 23-year-old Lindbergh because the Swedish netminder was Most Valuable Player, Rookie of the Year and Top Goalie in the American Hockey League in 1980-81 for McCammon's Maine Mariners.

Philadelphia's Bobby Clarke and Darryl Sittler were also key performers during the Flyers' rise to the top of the Patrick Division standings. Clarke recorded his fifth career hat trick and assisted on two other goals in an 8-4 triumph over Detroit December 27. Sittler raised his career points to 989, pushing him past his former Toronto teammate, Dave Keon, into 18th place on the NHL's all-time point list when he collected one goal and two assists in a 4-1 decision over St. Louis January 1.

Toronto's Rick Vaive had the hottest week of all NHL players, with eight goals in a three-game span. The rugged right winger poured in four goals against Detroit January 2 as the Maple Leafs extended their unbeaten streak to four games (including a win and a tie against Montreal) and moved within four points of the fourth-place Red Wings, with four games in hand, after their 6-3 victory over Detroit.

Wayne Gretzky, who had a 30-game points streak snapped by Los Angeles earlier this season, was held off the scoresheet for only the second time this season, by Winnipeg on January 1, but the Jets still won, 5-3. Gretzky's second streak lasted eight games. . . . New Jersey goaltender Glenn Resch logged his 200th career victory (including playoffs) with a 3-1 win over Vancouver January 2. The triumph was only the second in 11 games for the Devils, while the loss extended the Canucks' winless skid to six games (0-4-2). . . . Toronto's 6-5 victory over Montreal December 29 was the Leafs' first victory in 11 games. . . . Guy Lafleur's two goals in Montreal's 5-1 victory over Pittsburgh January 2 gave the veteran winger 37 goals in his last 41 games against the Penguins. It also snapped the Canadiens' five-game winless skid. . . . Hartford's winless streak had stretched to eight games. . . . The Washington Capitals, who are one of only six NHL clubs with a winning record on the road this season, extended their road unbeaten string to eight games with a 7-4 triumph at Quebec January 2. The Caps had enjoyed only one tie in their previous five visits to Quebec.

HOW THEY STAND

THROUGH GAMES OF JANUARY 2

Wales Conference PATRICK DIVISION

| | W | L | T | Pts. | GF | GA |
|----------------|----|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| Philadelphia | 23 | 12 | 5 | 51 | 161 | 123 |
| Washington | 18 | 17 | 6 | 51 | 141 | 140 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 19 | 8 | 7 | 45 | 145 | 131 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 19 | 16 | 3 | 41 | 157 | 142 |
| Pittsburgh | 12 | 22 | 6 | 30 | 131 | 178 |
| New Jersey | 8 | 25 | 7 | 23 | 109 | 174 |

ADAMS DIVISION

| | W | L | T | Pts. | GF | GA |
|----------|----|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| Boston | 23 | 10 | 6 | 52 | 160 | 116 |
| Montreal | 21 | 10 | 8 | 50 | 180 | 140 |
| Buffalo | 18 | 13 | 7 | 43 | 151 | 125 |
| Quebec | 17 | 15 | 6 | 40 | 173 | 167 |
| Hartford | 10 | 24 | 5 | 25 | 130 | 184 |

SMYTHE DIVISION

| | W | L | T | Pts. | GF | GA |
|-------------|----|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| Edmonton | 20 | 12 | 8 | 48 | 202 | 161 |
| Winnipeg | 17 | 17 | 4 | 38 | 156 | 158 |
| Calgary | 14 | 20 | 7 | 35 | 163 | 173 |
| Vancouver | 13 | 18 | 8 | 34 | 139 | 144 |
| Los Angeles | 14 | 18 | 5 | 33 | 125 | 145 |

Game of Monday, Dec. 27

Philadelphia 8, Detroit 4.

Game of Tuesday, Dec. 28

Quebec 4, Hartford 3.

Washington 6, Pittsburgh 3.

Toronto 4, Montreal 4.

Boston 3, St. Louis 0.

Calgary 3, Chicago 2.

Winnipeg 4, Vancouver 4.

Game of Wednesday, Dec. 29

St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 5.

Toronto 6, Montreal 5.

Detroit 5, Minnesota 5.

Chicago 6, Edmonton 6.

Winnipeg 4, Los Angeles 3.

Game of Thursday, Dec. 30

Washington 4, Hartford 4.

N.Y. Rangers 5, New Jersey 2.

Philadelphia 6, Calgary 3.

Campbell Conference MORRIS DIVISION

| | W | L | T | Pts. | GF | GA |
|-----------|----|----|----|------|-----|-----|
| Chicago | 25 | 8 | 6 | 56 | 177 | 129 |
| Minnesota | 20 | 11 | 8 | 48 | 168 | 148 |
| St. Louis | 14 | 23 | 4 | 32 | 145 | 162 |
| Detroit | 9 | 20 | 11 | 29 | 126 | 169 |
| Toronto | 8 | 21 | 7 | 23 | 131 | 170 |

Game of Friday, Dec. 31

Edmonton 8, Vancouver 1.

Buffalo 5, N.Y. Islanders 3.

D

Kurri Is a Finn-ished Product

EDMONTON—He's cursed with having to play in the giant shadow of Wayne Gretzky, but Jari Kurri might be the best European in the National Hockey League. If he's not No. 1, he's in the top three with Quebec's Peter Stastny and his older brother Marian.

The Stastnys may be better offensively, but neither is in Kurri's league defensively. The Finnish winger is a legitimate candidate for the Frank Selke Trophy (for best defensive forward), which Boston's Steve Kasper won last season. "He's one of the most underrated players in the NHL today," said Oilers assistant coach Teddy Green. "He's definitely one of the best two-way players in the game."

Kurri doesn't steamroll players into the boards like Montreal's Bob Gainey, and he doesn't shadow guys like Kasper. But he's an immensely intelligent player, who knows that checks come more than twice a month. "He has a real good mind for the way the game is played and he does everything naturally," said Green.

The 22-year-old from Helsinki does the backchecking for Gretzky, his center the last 2½ years. While Gretzky dips and doodles in deep, Kurri is always the first man back should Gretzky lose the puck. He also has a great knack for getting in people's way when the NHL scoring champ winds his way down the ice. "He's very consistent at picking up the opposing man," said Gretzky. "I know he creates a lot of opportunities for me by taking the man out in the neutral zone. His greatest strength, though, may be that he rarely gets caught out of position."

Gretzky may be biased, which is natural considering his loyalty to his teammates, but he considers Kurri a jewel. "There's no question he should be an All-Star (midseason)," said Gretzky, casting a glance at Kurri's stats (46 points) and defensive ability. "He's a better player than people give him credit for. He hasn't got the recognition nationally or the exposure he should have. And yet he does so many little things right."

Chances are Kurri may get nosed out for the All-Star Game in early February. He's in a very tough race in the Campbell Conference with Calgary's Lanny McDonald (34 goals in 40 games) and Minnesota's Dino Ciccarelli (24 goals in 37 games). Vancouver captain Stan Smyl will get some support from voters, too. Kurri's support may even be split on his own team with Glenn Anderson (40 points in 29 games). Only the top two vote-getters automatically earn spots on the All-Star team. The All-Star coach picks the extras.

Kurri, recently named Finland's team sport player of the year, realizes that playing alongside Gretzky could be a drawback. People still think he picks up points just because Gretzky feeds him. But Kurri doesn't seem to mind. "It doesn't matter to me. Maybe I am a little lucky to play with Wayne," said Kurri. "It's hard to say if I would have 40 goals playing with somebody else or not."

Considering Kurri's gifts, he would be a talented winger with anybody. He's been a solid NHLer since he was drafted in the fourth round of the 1979 draft. He had 86 points last year and 75 points his rookie season.

* * *

Gretzky has won every award imaginable, but there's one he'll never have in his trophy room. He'll never be Ring Magazine's Man of the Year. Gretzky lost his second-ever NHL fight just before Christmas to bantamweight Neal Broten. Gretzky got in the first jab, but if you were scoring on the five-point must system, he didn't even come close to winning the one-rounder. "I just got tired of peo-

WHERE THEY PLAY

January 8—Vancouver at Hartford, Los Angeles at Montreal, Toronto at Washington, Winnipeg at Calgary.

January 7—Boston at New Jersey, Vancouver at Buffalo, Quebec at N.Y. Islanders, Washington at St. Louis, Los Angeles at Toronto, Detroit at Calgary, Chicago at Minnesota

January 9—Hartford at Philadelphia, Los Angeles at Buffalo, New Jersey at N.Y. Rangers, Pittsburgh at Winnipeg, Detroit at Edmonton, Minnesota at Chicago

January 10—Quebec at New Jersey

January 11—Hartford at Montreal, Winnipeg at N.Y. Islanders, Los Angeles at Washington, Edmonton at St. Louis

January 12—Boston at Toronto, Quebec at Buffalo, Winnipeg at N.Y. Rangers, Minnesota at Pittsburgh, Edmonton at Chicago, Calgary at Vancouver

January 13—Quebec at Boston, Montreal at Hartford, N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey, Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, Toronto at Minnesota, Los Angeles at Detroit, Vancouver at Calgary

January 14—Washington at Buffalo, St. Louis at Winnipeg

January 15—N.Y. Rangers at Boston (D), New Jersey at Hartford, Buffalo at Washington, Montreal at Pittsburgh, Calgary at Quebec, Los Angeles at N.Y. Islanders, Chicago at Philadelphia (D), Toronto at Detroit, Edmonton at Minnesota

January 16—Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, Los Angeles at New Jersey, Detroit at Chicago, Winnipeg at Vancouver

NHL
SMYTHE

By
JIM MATHESON



ple asking me when my last fight was," joked Gretzky, fingering a bruised lip after his 30-second scuffle with the Minnesota center. "Now Doug Lecuyer won't be the only answer to the trivia question." Lecuyer and Gretzky tangled in 1979.... Oilers winger Mark Messier wore the captain's C for two games as a substitute for Lee Fogolin, who was out with the flu December 19 but came back December 22. Coach Glen Sather decided to keep the C on Messier's sweater. Messier had seven points in his two-game stint, with Fogolin getting the C back December 23 in Los Angeles.

Los Angeles recalled goalie Mike Blake from New Haven, putting the Kings in the same position they were in to start the season—three goalies and only two spots on the roster. Rookie Gary Laskoski has begun to show some cracks, understandable considering the St. Lawrence University grad had already played in more games than he ever did in college.... Center

Terry Ruskowski was asked about the fact he hadn't scored in 31 games this season. "Not true," joked Ruskowski. "I scored the other night in a singles bar down the street."

Winnipeg Coach Tom Watt can't believe all the fans around the league upset with their teams, regardless of where they're located in the league standings. The heat's been on in Edmonton; on Long Island, in Montreal. "Nobody seems to be happy," said Watt. ... Watt read with interest that Minnesota Coach Glen Sonmor had sat out star centers Neal Broten and Bobby Smith for one game each to get them out of slumps, but he's not sure he could do the same. "I don't think we're strong enough for me to sit out, say, Dale Hawerchuk," said Watt. "I know I couldn't do it at home... the fans wouldn't let me." ... Defense-man Dave Babych is the Jets' leading All-Star candidate. Doug Soetaert has taken over the No. 1 job in goal with Eddie Staniowski reduced to spectator status.

An Unplugged Power Play Latest Joke in Montreal

MONTREAL—The Boston Bruins were the popular preseason choice to unseat the Montreal Canadiens as champions of the Adams Division. And for the first time in a long time, the selectors may be right.

The recent weeks have been a cause for concern among Canadiens management. At one point, the Canadiens were in a nose-to-nose scuffle with the Chicago Black Hawks for first place overall. But when deficiencies started showing up defensively, particularly in the nets, the Hawks pulled away. So did several other teams.

Montreal's retrogression was an amalgam of many things, but none matched the futility of the team's power play, once its strongest asset.

Did any among you ever imagine that halfway through a National Hockey League season, the mighty Canadiens would be dead last in the matter of power-play goals on the road and 20th overall?

Roll these numbers on your tongue: As the Canadiens approached the 40-game mark, they had scored only seven goals in 72 power-play opportunities on the road, 9.7 percent. They had 21 goals in 130 chances overall.

The mediocrity of the Canadiens' power play has been the most discussed and disgusting part of a Montreal season—one that started with all forms of distress over a preseason trade that dispatched the team's two best defensemen (Rod Langway and Brian Engblom) to the Washington Capitals for Ryan Walter and Rick Green.

Unbelievable, that's what the power-play slump has been. It's also unacceptable to Montreal fans, who have made the team's power play the city's latest joke. The fans were wondering whether it would be more beneficial if the Canadiens could decline the penalties like in football.

It's no laughing matter with Canadiens Coach Bob Berry, who has been getting all kinds of unsolicited help. He has been provided more suggestions than he can handle, including a few from his players.

One suggestion has been to remove Guy Lafleur from the point. Another is that the power play's principal weakness is that nobody is exerting muscle in front of the opposing goaltender. This was happening even though muscle in front of the net was what the Canadiens had in mind when they went shopping for Walter.

Montreal fans are disgruntled, and so are several of the Ca-

NHL
ADAMS



By
RED FISHER

nadiens—particularly those players who aren't employed on the power play.

After a recent game in Quebec, for example, defenseman Robert Picard visited Berry to complain about the way he was being used—or not used.

Mark Napier, who's opting for free agency and has allowed that situation to gnaw at his talent, also has been left disenchanted, particularly after not being dressed for a game in Edmonton and used very little in the following game in Quebec.

All this, of course, hasn't hurt Boston, a team that overcame adversity at the start of the season and finally put its game together to the point where it was able to pass the Canadiens in the standings for the first time in several seasons.

What has made the Bruins' record during the first half of the season so remarkable is that the team probably was hit harder than any other club in the league.

Even before the season began, the team knew that Terry O'Reilly would miss the first 10 games with a suspension from last season's playoffs. Then, in a preseason game in Montreal, the Bruins lost All-Star defenseman Raymond Bourque for five weeks when he was hit above the eye with a shot.

Gord Kluzak, the team's No. 1 overall draft choice, tore a groin muscle and missed a flock of games. What's more, when he returned from the injury, his ability to skate backward was impaired, which forced management to use him on the forward line.

And by far the worst loss was when the team lost Normand Leveille forever with a brain hemorrhage during a game early in the season in Vancouver. He was the team's most productive player at the time he was stricken.

Needless to say, Boston people are happy with their season thus far and Canadiens management isn't delighted with its position. On the other hand, they agree on one thing: It's a long season. A very long one.

* * *

Canadiens right winger Mark Hunter was sidelined with a knee injury after a collision with his older brother, Dale, a winger for the Quebec Nordiques. . . . Rick Wamsley was a casualty in the same game (groin injury).

Risto Siltanen, the Hartford defenseman acquired from Edmonton during the off-season, may stay in Finland after this season. It's his idea, not Hartford's. . . . The Nordiques have been talking to teams about moving Real Cloutier. . . . Another Quebec player who appears to have fallen into disfavor is defenseman Dave Pichette. . . . Randy Moller, the rookie Quebec defenseman, is developing a tough-guy reputation and backing it up with his fists. In a recent game at Montreal he went after Chris Nilan, the Canadiens' enforcer. . . . Quebec fear: Peter Stastny could be lost for up to six weeks with his knee injury.

Montreal fans are disgruntled, and so are several of the Ca-

Clock Ticks Off Rangers

NHL
PATRICK



By
PAT CALABRIA

NEW YORK—The New York Rangers have lost by big scores and small scores. They've lost when they've played well, they've lost when they've played poorly and they've lost when it seemed they hardly played at all. Now there comes an instance when even time isn't on their side.

The team isn't in the habit of watching the clock. Perhaps it should be. Somehow about six minutes were misplaced during the second period of a 3-1 loss to the Buffalo Sabres December 22. Finally, only the Madison Square Garden timekeeper was able to prove what others have merely suspected: Time does fly indeed.

It happened like this:

The time clock malfunctioned, so timekeeper Frank Koch—one of the minor officials who regularly work at the Garden—attempted to keep track with a stopwatch while repairs were being made to the scoreboard timepiece. The malfunction happened before a minor penalty was assessed to the Rangers' Nick Fotiu. That led to the confusion.

With the clock not working, the time of the penalty was announced as 13:46, instead of the actual time of 6:14. No one, including Wicks, realized that the announcement had given the time left in the period instead of the time elapsed. And when a "correction" was subsequently issued, the penalty time inexplicably was announced as 11:46. That confused matters even more.

Father Time might have been a grandfather before anyone thought to straighten out the problem. Somehow, no one thought to get a substitute watch. With the CBS studios right in downtown Manhattan, it seemed clear enough that an official

could have been dispatched to the set of "Captain Kangaroo" to borrow Grandfather Clock.

John Cameron Swayze, of course, would never have let such a thing happen. But the error kept right on ticking. Everyone, Buffalo Coach Scotty Bowman included, agreed the second period had seemed awfully short.

A further problem developed when Koch was unable to provide a precise answer when referee Ron Wicks inquired about how much time had been misplaced. The Rangers were sure the mistake had cost them several minutes, a guess that was, uh, seconded by other minor officials.

"The period was short, no question," the Rangers' Dave Maloney said. "It's like you see a batter who takes four strikes in a baseball game and you wonder how that happens. It's not like it was 30 seconds. It was six minutes. That's a long time."

The error helped account for a total game time of a mere 2:12, about 15 minutes shorter than a Rangers' game usually takes.

The Rangers did not even have a way to protest the game. The NHL has no provision for such a protest. But the evening did have its advantages. The Sabres were able to catch a late-night flight home. The Rangers were able to get extra sleep before the next day's practice (no snickers, please).

* * *

The Washington Capitals won their first game ever at Nassau Coliseum with a 3-1 victory over the New York Islanders after going 0-18-1 on Long Island. But then the Capitals' 14-game unbeaten streak ended at home in a 6-3 loss to the Philadelphia Flyers. . . . Denis Potvin of the Islanders missed a team bus to Hartford, arrived on his own and was disciplined with a one-game benching. . . . The New Jersey Devils recalled goalie Lindsay Middlebrook from Wichita (Central Hockey League) and in his first game back Middlebrook was beaten by Philadelphia, which scored on a 75-foot shot by Ron Flockhart. . . . The Flyers lead the NHL in road attendance, playing to 89 percent of capacity. . . . Latest league figures had Pittsburgh's surprising Pat Bouteille leading the league with a shooting percentage of 28.6.

Bobby Francis On Own Route

NHL
NORRIS



By
GARY MUELLER

ST. LOUIS—The thrill of scoring his first goal in the National Hockey League brought a unique response from Detroit Red Wings center Bobby Francis.

"It was pretty good timing," said Francis, "because I was glad my dad happened to be in the crowd. But I'm sure he was mad about it at the time I scored."

"I'm not happy it came against my team, that's for sure," said Emile Francis, general manager and coach of the St. Louis Blues, after Bobby's first NHL goal helped the Red Wings gain a 5-5 tie with the Blues. "You know, before the game I had a feeling he might do something like that."

Bobby Francis, acquired recently by Detroit from the Calgary Flames' organization, was playing against his dad by choice.

"When I came out of college (University of New Hampshire) and was a free agent, he talked to me about signing with St. Louis," said Bobby. "We both agreed it would be hard on both of us for me to be in the same organization."

"If I were an established player, it might be different, but I was a free agent just trying to earn a spot in an organization. We talked it over, and decided I didn't need the added pressure, although it was more my decision than his for me to sign with another organization."

In 1981-82, Francis earned Most Valuable Player and Rookie of the Year awards for Calgary's Oklahoma City farm team in the Central Hockey League, but it wasn't until he was traded to the Red Wings that he got his first chance in the NHL.

"When I was in Calgary, we played an exhibition game against St. Louis and the benches are across the rink from one another," said Bobby. "I really hadn't thought much about it, until one time I was sitting there on the bench and looked across and saw my dad behind the other bench. I guess that's when it really hit me."

Although Emile Francis was an eyewitness to his son's first NHL goal, it didn't come from ice level, as Emile was watching from the press box, having temporarily turned the coaching duties over to assistant coach Barclay Plager.

* * *

The Toronto Star recently ran a full-page story asking, "What's wrong with the Leafs?" The most common answer pointed toward too many bad trades and too rapid a turnover in personnel.

Who offered these opinions? Among others, seven players who had been traded away by the Maple Leafs.

Several star Toronto players of another era pointed to a lack of talent and poor defensive play, while several amateur hockey officials from the Toronto area pointed a poor scouting system.

It was suggested also that Leafs Owner Harold Ballard had "too high a profile."

Just when Minnesota North Stars goalie Don Beaupre thought everything was falling into place, the bottom fell out.

After struggling early this season, Beaupre, the rookie sensation of two seasons ago, seemed back in top form with a six-game unbeaten streak. He pointed to the first game in that streak, a 4-1 victory over Detroit, as the key game.

"I didn't have a lot of tough saves that night, but coming up with a one-goal game did wonders for my confidence," said Beaupre. "Since then, it all has seemed to fall into place."

The unbeaten streak crashed to an end with an 8-2 loss in Edmonton.

In a high-powered matchup at Chicago Stadium between the team with the NHL's best power-play record at home and the team with the best power-play record on the road, St. Louis and the Black Hawks fought to a split decision of sorts.

The Hawks entered the game with the best power-play at home—38.5 percent, and improved slightly on that mark with two power-play goals in five chances. The Blues, who had the best road power-play mark—34.8 percent, cashed in on two of three power-play chances, but couldn't stop Chicago from skating to a 7-4 triumph.

Chicago Coach Orval Tessier figures the power play is a more effective weapon than fisticuffs against teams that stress physical intimidation.

It must be more than a coincidence, but Chicago currently is the least-penalized team in the NHL and the Hawks have the league's most effective power play.

No Credit to Angels in Mauch Departure

BOSTON—While everyone else recounts the heroics of Robin Yount, Reggie Jackson, Pete Vuckovich, Dwight Evans, Kent Hrbek, et al., here are a few recollections of 1982 oddities.

• One of the worst had to be California management's handling of the Gene Mauch dismissal. When it was all over, the fact that the Angels fell one run short of the American League pennant, when almost everyone considered the Brewers the better team, was as much as could be expected. All the whispering, second-guessing and backbiting that ditched Mauch leads to serious doubts about the ethics of a few people in that organization. Runner-up goes to Eddie Chiles in Texas, to whom Brad Corbett proposed a toast saying, "the man who made me look good." That was after Chiles disposed of his manager, Don Zimmer, and his general manager, Eddie Robinson. Chiles may have also posted armed guards outside chained fences to bar the media, but his actions came more from naivete about this whacky business than malice.

• When the year was over, the Yankees had employed three managers, five pitching coaches and three batting instructors. They had fired three major league scouts and the Columbus manager (goodness—he finished second), deleted the name of one limited partner from the rolls (John De Lorean) and invited the P.R. man, the club president and club attorney to leave.

During the year, the Yankees acquired and traded Bobby Ramos, Lee Mazzilli and Bill Caudill, while trading and reacquiring Brad Gulden and Tom Dodd.

A.L.
BEAT

By
PETER GAMMONS

Gone from the January 1, 1982, Yankees roster: Ron Davis, Pete Filson, Gene Nelson, Tommy John, Dave Stegman, William Castro, Andy McCaffigan, John Pacella, Bucky Dent, Mike Morgan, Dave Collins, Dave Revering, Jeff Reynolds, Thad Wilborn, Bob Watson, Larry Milbourne, Tucker Ashford (for now) and Bobby Brown (for now).

Yankee arrivals in 1982: Don Baylor, Steve Kemp, Bob Shirley, Roy Smalley, Scott Patterson, Butch Wynegar, John Mayberry, Roger Erickson, Pedro Hernandez, Dale Murray, Dennis Rasmussen, Doyle Alexander, Jay Howell, Shane Rawley, John Holland, Jose Rivera, Tim Burke and Jerry Aubin.

Rodney Scott, Bobby Bonds and Lynn McGlothen were signed and released. Butch Hobson, Barry Foote, Bobby Murcer, Bob Sykes and Marshall Brandt remain on the Columbus (International) roster. Dave LaRoche, who got the name of the New York Thruway changed to LaLobway by being recalled, optioned and released a dozen times, apparently remains a lefthanded reliever. Lost was Rick Reuschel, seen only in visiting clubhouses that feature ice cream. As for Billy Martin . . . who knows? And the Yankees are still one of the teams to beat in 1983.

• In what originally would have been his free-agent year, • Tigers pitcher Dave Rozema required 11 stitches in the buttocks. It happened when he fell off a chair and landed on a medicine bottle he had stashed in his back pocket in spring training. Rozema also pushed Alan Trammell's face into a glass, good for 200 stitches, and suffered a knee injury that ended his season with an aborted karate kick in a fight. While on the disabled list, Rozema also made the gossip columns of Detroit for a reported incident in a restaurant and he required Coast Guard assistance when he got lost in the middle of Lake Michigan in his boat. Incidentally, teammate Kirk Gibson said of Rozema: "He has the kind of mind that takes an hour and a half to watch 'Sixty Minutes.'"

• Revering hit .368 in spring training and George Steinbren-

Tigers pitcher Dave Rozema has the kind of mind that takes an hour and a half to watch 'Sixty Minutes.'



ner announced that he would play first base against all kinds of pitching the entire season. Revering went 0-for-4 in the first game of an opening-day doubleheader, was benched for the nightcap, was traded to Toronto in May, became a free agent when optioned to Syracuse in July, signed on with Seattle and was released at the end of the season.

• In case you've forgotten it, the eight players who received votes for 1981 A.L. Rookie of the Year were: Dave Righetti, who was in Columbus last June but still finished 11-10; Rich Gedman, who hit .249 with 26 RBIs, three after the All-Star break; Bobby Ojeda, who was 4-6, 5.63 between two hamstring pulls and separating his right shoulder falling in the bathtub; Dave Engle, who hit .226 with 16 RBIs and was sent to Toledo, Shooty Babbitt, released by Wichita; Mike Jones, who missed the entire season after his scary auto accident; Jorge Bell, who hit .220 in only 37 games at Syracuse after breaking his jaw, and Mike Witt, who was 8-6 with the Angels.

• The destructive effect of the DH on pitchers' arms is evident in the pitching and hitting leaders from the last three years overall in both majors. The A.L. doesn't have one representative in the top five ERA, while the N.L. has only Mike Schmidt among the batting, home run and RBI leaders. After Steve Carlton's 60 wins, Larry Gura, Jack Morris and Scott McGregor are tied with Montreal's Steve Rogers with 47.

Left in for decisions more often, the A.L. pitchers dominate the losses. The top five (Jim Clancy, 42, Rick Honeycutt, 40, Dave Stieb, 39, and Morris and Rick Langford, 38) are in the A.L. Some of the worst ERAs also were compiled by A.L. pitchers (Rick Waits, 4.82, Mike Torrez, 4.34). George Brett (.334), Cecil Cooper (.332) and Willie Wilson (.326) are the top three hitters in this 1980-82 period and all are American Leaguers. N.L. slugger Schmidt leads in homers (114), followed by A.L. sluggers Gorman Thomas (98), Reggie Jackson (95) and Ben Oglivie (89). RBI leaders are Eddie Murray (304), Cooper (303), Schmidt (299) and Oglivie (292).

• Castro collected over \$600,000 from the Yankees for pitching 19 innings. He was sent to the Angels as "payment" for Butch Hobson, then was made a free agent when optioned by California. He was signed by Tacoma, recalled by the A's and released before throwing a pitch. He finished 3-2, 3.45 with a save in the final two months for the Royals.

• Some sort of recognition should go to the Blue Jays' Gulf Coast League entry, whose 1982 roster read: Jose Fernandez, Alexis Infante, Thomas Castillo, Estebian Bolivar, Cesar Roman, Joaquin Torres, Radahames Rodriguez, Domingo Rossi, Oswaldo Peraza, Angel Diaz, Tomas Vizcaino, Bill Carmona, Ramon Achique, Benito Malave, Ricky Duncan, Jose Mesa, Julio Espinoza, Luis Aquino, Ventura Echarre, Edwin Palencia, Dumas Liendo, Arsenio Alexander and Rick Montana.

• The Texas Rangers issued a news release entitled "Mightier Than The Mightiest," showing that Dave Hostetler was ahead of the home run pace of Babe Ruth, Henry Aaron and Willie Mays after his first 100 at-bats. Hostetler finished at .232, with 22 homers in 437 at-bats.

• The year's best Yogi-ism came from son Dale ("Our similarities are different") over in the other league. But in spring training, when apprised of a new rule banning wristbands on gloves (a vision problem for umpires in calls involving trap catches) the elder Berra asked, "Will they still allow traps?"

• RECORDS: The Boston Red Sox broke a 32-year-old record by grounding into 171 double plays; Ricky Henderson broke Ty Cobb's record by getting caught stealing 42 times; Jimmy Sexton of Oakland broke the mark for most stolen bases without being caught (16); Rick Burleson set a record for most assists by a shortstop in one game (15) and was operated on for a rotator cuff a week later; Terry Felton of the Twins set a record for consecutive losses at the start of a career (16).

Bob Stanley set an A.L. mark for most innings by a reliever (168 1/4); Lance Parrish hit more homers than any other catcher in A.L. history (32); Graig Nettles has hit the most career homers of any third baseman in A.L. history (300); Tim Foli had fewer walks (14) than anyone who'd ever played 150 A.L. games and Boston's Wade Boggs hit .349, the highest average by any rookie playing in 100 or more A.L. games.

• The Red Sox conducted an election for the fans to pick an all-time Red Sox team. The starting pitchers were Babe Ruth and Cy Young, which says something about the franchise's history of pitching. The entire team also happens to be white, which says a thing or two about something else.

N.L.
BEAT

By
BILL CONLIN

the Phillies and Giants of the teens and early '20s.

Time continues to work against Don Drysdale, Gil Hodges and Jim Bunning. If they haven't made it to Cooperstown by now, that trio of worthies will probably wind up in the laps of a Veterans Committee, which must recently got around to giving Hack Wilson and Chuck Klein those hard-hitting, hard-living titans of the 1930s, a posthumous measure of justice. Hodges was overshadowed on great Brooklyn Dodgers teams which shared New York with the Yankees and Giants. The managing job he did with the '69 Mets could have sent him to Cooperstown on its own merit. Of the Brooklyn Boys of Summer, only Roy Campanella and Duke Snider have made it to the Hall. And Snider had a long wait.

Had Bunning won one more game in each of four seasons he would have been a lock. But 19-game winners don't often make it to Cooperstown, even ones who pitch perfect games and win more than 100 games in each league. Drysdale had an identity problem in that he was the ace righthander on a staff that included Sandy Koufax, a man who for five golden seasons was the greatest lefthander of all time and, perhaps, the greatest pitcher of all time during that electric run of excellence. But the electors have a difficult job. Nothing cheapens a Hall of Fame in any sport more than to clutter it with guys who were almost great. And baseball has enshrined some suspects in the past.

* * *

Omar Moreno is a shy, sensitive athlete who did not wish to go into the 1982 season with the albatross of an option year hanging around his neck. But the Pirates stonewalled agent Tom Reich, one of the profession's more honorable men, refusing to talk about a new contract until after the season. The rest is a grim lesson in how not to play the free-agent game. Once their center fielder declared free agency, the Pirates were forced to offer him much more than it would have cost them had they sat down with Reich before the season.

The Pirates lost in every possible way because Omar, brooding over his lame-duck status, had a poor season. They watched Moreno walk away to the Astros and had to expend four minor leaguers to acquire Lee Mazzilli, who is not in Moreno's class as a run-producer or defensive center fielder.

Moreno lost because simple arithmetic forced him to leave a city where he was comfortable and popular. Now, he will have to prove to Astros fans that he is worth the huge contract Reich hammered out for him. Mazzilli, who says too much pressure was put on him when he was the Mets' future superstar, will find himself being compared to Moreno from the first spring training workout in Bradenton.

Now that Steve Garvey has signed with the Padres, don't be surprised if the three southern California franchises draw the mind-boggling total of 9 million fans. The Dodgers should threaten 4 million, the Angels could come close to 3 million and the Padres should easily top 2 million. It's hard to believe that less than 30 years ago L.A. and San Diego were Pacific Coast League towns and Anaheim was a laugh-getter in a Jack Benny radio show routine which featured the line, "Train leaving on Track 29 for Anaheim, Azusa and Cucamonga; passengers getting off at Cucamonga, please watch your step—we do not stop there."

PHILADELPHIA—Some baseball deals slip quietly by, their larger implications hidden until a later date. The Dodgers' failure to make a deal for Rangers catcher Jim Sundberg in Hawaii received much more media attention than the apparent throwaway trade they made after Christmas, sending pinch-hitter Jorge Orta to the Mets for disgruntled righthander Pat Zachry.

What Orta, famous in 1982 only as the man Tommy Lasorda chose to pinch-hit for Fernando Valenzuela in the fateful final game against the Giants, will do to help the talent-starved Mets is hard to fathom. Probably nothing. Jorge hit a soft .217 for the Dodgers. But in Zachry the Dodgers acquired a righthander who still can pitch, a performer whose talent was held hostage by the wretched team that played behind him in Shea Stadium.

Cast in a fifth starter's role, the man who went reluctantly to New York in 1977 as part of the shabby package the Reds surrendered for Tom Seaver, easily could win 12 to 14 games in that spot. He was 6-9 for the Mets with a 4.05 ERA, but only 16 of his 36 appearances came as a starter. George Bamberger also used him in middle and short relief, which is not his niche.

When used as a starter with proper rest, Zachry is a guy who can give a contending team six or seven professional innings. If he stays healthy, you can mark down the Dodgers' acquisition of Zachry for what appears to be next to nothing as one of the more important acquisitions of the off-season.

A.L.
BEAT

By
BILL CONLIN

★ ★ ★

It is Hall of Fame election time once again. I hope my colleagues in the Baseball Writers' Association of America don't give short shrift once again to Juan Marichal in their haste to elect Brooks Robinson in his first appearance on the ballot. Robinson is certainly deserving of that honor, but a similar reward should have been bestowed on the great Giants righthander last January. The BBWAA electors gave an overwhelming mandate in 1981 to Bob Gibson, which was also richly deserved. But they slighted Marichal, a Gibson contemporary who was nearly as gifted and successful.

Another 1960s star who has received surprisingly slim Hall of Fame support is Maury Wills. For all his abrasiveness as a player and his dismal failure as a manager, Wills was a performer whose skills helped change the playing style of his decade. Wills put the stolen base back into a game that had become too comfortable with the home run and the big inning. The emphasis on the running game, which has given us exciting players like Lou Brock, Rickey Henderson, Tim Raines and Omar Moreno, dates to Wills' emergence as the most important baserunner since Ty Cobb. Wills was never a shortstop in the classic mold, but there's a guy in the Hall of Fame named Dave Bancroft with a .279 lifetime batting average who committed 60 or more errors no less than three seasons and averaged 50 or more errors during his long career at short with

Can Dodgers Revive Zachry?

LOS ANGELES—On the surface, the Los Angeles Dodgers' swap of Jorge Orta to the New York Mets for pitcher Pat Zachry was something less than a blockbuster. After all, Orta hit only .217 last year, and Zachry was only 6-9.

The Dodgers and Mets agreed on the deal before Christmas, but it wasn't announced until December 28 because of some technicalities in Zachry's contract. Three years remain on Zachry's pact.

It is the hope of Dodgers Vice-President Al Campanis that Zachry, 30, might emulate three others who went to Los Angeles in recent years with less than glowing numbers, yet wound up flourishing in Dodger Stadium—

Burt Hooton, Tommy John and Al Downing.

Hooton was coming off three successive losing seasons with the Chicago Cubs, but in his first year with the Dodgers, 1975, he was 18-9 (two of the losses were with the Cubs). John, too, had three consecutive losing seasons with the Chicago White Sox before he was traded to the Dodgers in 1972 for Richie Allen. John hasn't had a losing year since, three times winning 20 or more. And Downing had floundered for three years with the New York Yankees, once even going back to the minors, but went 20-9 with a 2.68 ERA his first year with the Dodgers, 1971.

The Dodgers' interest in Zachry is hardly a surprise. In his rookie season, 1976, Zachry, then with Cincinnati, literally pitched the Dodgers out of the National League West title.

Zachry started six games against the Dodgers that year, winning five and losing only one. And in those six starts, he allowed just eight earned runs in 46 1/3 innings, a 1.54 earned-run average.

Not since 1969, when San Francisco's Juan Marichal went 5-1 against the Dodgers, had Los Angeles lost five times in a season to one pitcher. Not even against Houston's J. R. Richard, who whipped the Dodgers 13 straight times between 1976 and 1980.

The Dodgers' immediate plans for Zachry list him as a long reliever, though he'll no doubt get an opportunity, along with Joe Beckwith, Alejandro Pena and Larry White, for the No. 5 spot in the starting rotation. Last year Zachry started 16 times for the Mets and relieved in 20 games.

He's had only three winning seasons in seven years in the majors, primarily because of injuries. He's been on the disabled list four times in the last five years. In 1979, he had elbow surgery.

Zachry pitched 1 1/2 years with the Reds, then was traded to the Mets in the Tom Seaver deal in 1977. He was the co-Rookie of the Year (with San Diego's Butch Metzger) in 1976 and was the winning pitcher in the third game of the '76 World Series.

For several years, the Texas-born Zachry has sported a beard, a no-no as far as Dodgers Manager Tom Lasorda is concerned.

Lasorda said, "I don't see any problem."

Translation: He'll shave.

"I think we got a pretty good pitcher," Lasorda said of Zachry, who has won only 24 games the last four seasons. "I've always liked him, even when he was with Cincinnati. He can do a lot of things...he can start or he can work out of the bullpen.

"If we go with five starters—and we're certain on that right now—he'll get a good shot at the job."

Dodger Dope: Orta didn't pan out as a pinch-hitting replacement for Jay Johnstone. As a pinch-hitter, Orta was only 9-for-60, .150. As a regular, he fared much better, batting .291.... The Dodgers were to begin three-a-week workouts at Dodger Stadium the first week in January. Coach Mark Cresse was in charge of the sessions.

GORDON VERRELL



Three Big Holes In Braves' Rotation

ATLANTA—Joe Torre, asked to name the candidates for spots in the Atlanta Braves' starting rotation, mentions a half dozen names or so. "Am I leaving anyone out?" he asks.

The Braves go into the new year as National League West champions, but they do so without an established starting pitching rotation. Spring training, again, will be devoted to the construction of a staff.

Torre feels Phil Niekro, 17-4 last season, and Rick Camp, the converted reliever, will be his top two starters. Then comes the list of names: Pascual Perez, Tommy Boggs, Rick Mahler, Bob Walk, Ken Dayley, Craig McMurtry and newcomer Pete Falzone.

Three of the six will crack the Braves' starting rotation. Another one or two will end up in the bullpen. At least one won't make the club at all.

Torre reviewed the candidates:

• Perez: "We feel he's got a chance to come through as a



Pat Zachry . . . He'll shave.

winner for us. We liked what he did for us late last season."

• Boggs: "Hopefully, he'll be healthier next season (after a 1982 rotator cuff injury). If he is, he can help us a lot."

• Mahler: "We had some teams inquire about him (in possible trades at the winter meetings), but our feeling is he's got to be better next year."

• Walk: "He has one of the best arms in our organization."

• Dayley: "I don't think he was ready last season, but we rushed him some because of our need for a lefthander. This year, he may be ready. He's having a great season in winter ball, and he'll get a good chance to be one of our starters, especially because he's lefthanded."

• McMurtry: "Our people are somewhat divided on whether he's ready, but he won 17 games at Richmond (International) last season. And if you don't give a 17-game winner a chance, there's no point in having a farm system."

• Falcone: "He'll be given a chance to make our starting rotation, but I also know he can pitch out of the bullpen. He has the natural talent, and he works hard. I've always thought that a pitcher with talent who works hard eventually will be successful."

Wigwam Wisps: The Braves planned to intensify negotiations with MVP Dale Murphy toward a multiyear contract. The Braves would like to sign Murphy for five years. . . . The Braves' strategy with Bob Horner seemed to be to sign him to a one-year contract. Horner can be a free agent after the 1984 season. . . . To make room for Falcone, the Braves designated relief pitcher Tom Hausman for assignment. The Braves acquired Hausmann from the Mets for lefthanded reliever Carlos Diaz in September.

TIM TUCKER



Astros Plan Backup Role for Reynolds

HOUSTON—Manager Bob Lillis has new plans for at least two veteran Houston Astros players in spring training.

Craig Reynolds, Houston's starting shortstop from 1979 until last June, when Dickie Thon took the job, will be working at three infield positions and in the outfield.

Harry Spilman, a good lefthanded hitter, will get a trial as a utility catcher.

"Craig can be a valuable man, even if he doesn't start regularly," Lillis says. "I was particularly impressed with the way he progressed in practice at second base late last year. He'll work at shortstop, of course, and third base. And we may utilize him off the bench in the outfield, too."

Reynolds is a two-time All-Star (with Seattle and Houston) who at age 30 is a steady influence offensively, defensively and in the clubhouse.

Reynolds might be expected to request a trade, but he's a native Houstonian and his family and business interests are in Houston. Unlike some veterans who are benched, Reynolds has said he'd accept a backup role with the Astros.

Lillis plans to start Phil Garner at third base, Thon at shortstop and rookie Bill Doran at second base, with Reynolds backing all three.

Spilman on occasion has shown the kind of punch the Astros

need off the bench. If the 28-year-old veteran satisfies his bosses behind the plate, he could find his playing time increased.

Alan Ashby, recently signed to a four-year contract, is a dependable starting catcher. But the Astros weren't satisfied last year with the offensive contributions of backups Luis Pujols and Alan Knickey. Neither hit .200. One or the other would lose his job if Spilman became the third catcher.

Astronotes: Pitcher Nolan Ryan, whose contract expires after the 1983 season, isn't pleased by delays in working out an extension. General Manager Al Rosen is willing to guarantee several more seasons for the Ryan Express, but Ryan would have to take a slight cut from his current pay of \$1.125 million per year. Ryan, who has enjoyed two good years, believes a raise is more in order.

HARRY SHATTUCK



Haller Defends Morgan Swap

SAN FRANCISCO—General Manager Tom Haller of the San Francisco Giants might have wished he'd received some blenders and earplugs as Christmas gifts.

Haller has been encountering a lot of criticism from fans and the Bay Area media for dealing Joe Morgan and Al Holland to Philadelphia and for letting Reggie Smith slip away to Japan.

It has frequently been mentioned that those moves strengthened only the starting rotation (Mike Krukow) while weakening the bullpen, the bench and power from the left side. The moves also removed three leaders who played a vital role in last season's pennant bid.

Well, Haller has had enough. The Giants did attempt to discourage Smith from crossing the Pacific, but the G.M. insists the developments will not alter the club's upward course.

"I think we will do at least as well as last season," Haller boldly predicts. "I'm not going to minimize what Joe, Reggie and Al did for us, but I see us getting better or we wouldn't have made those moves."

"I feel our pitching will be more solid with Krukow. We still have plenty of bullpen depth and two excellent short men in Greg Minton and Gary Lavelle. I don't see any problems there."

"We also believe the experience of the last pennant race will help our younger players. I see us getting more production out of Chili Davis, Jeff Leonard and our catcher. We also will be stronger defensively at first base."

Haller has been ripped for underestimating the leadership qualities of Morgan, but he feels others easily can pick up the slack.

"I see those qualities in Duane Kuiper, who will be playing second base and was a team captain at Cleveland," Haller says. "I also know Frank Robinson has that ability."

The advanced age of Morgan (39) and Smith (38) made them expendable for a club which is attempting to build a solid base for the future. Haller feels he had no alternative in Morgan's case.

"We had to deal Joe," he explains. "We made a salary offer and they were not willing to negotiate. We had to do something . . . and people weren't exactly beating down the door for Joe."

As for the absence of punch from the left side, Haller hopes it will be provided by the switch-hitting Davis, fellow second-year player Tom O'Malley and veteran slugger Darrell Evans, the likely first baseman.

With Kuiper, who belted 14 pinch-hits last season, and Evans becoming starters, the bench needs a boost. Haller hopes to sign free agents Alan Bannister and Joel Youngblood, with Mike Vail still mentioned in trade talks.

Gi-antics: Minton's five-year contract calls for an estimated \$3.75 million, with incentives hiking the package to \$6 million. If he makes it, he would be the highest paid reliever in history. . . . A mini-camp will be held at Candlestick Park January 10-29.



Householder Eager To Atone for .211

CINCINNATI—Paul Householder was so tuned out by baseball at the end of the 1982 season that he didn't watch one World Series game in its entirety.

That's not surprising. The Cincinnati Reds lost 101 games and the 24-year-old Householder, a preseason candidate for Rookie of the Year, batted a mere .211, with nine homers and 34 RBIs in 417 trips.

"Now when I look back on the season," said Householder, "I realize I put too much heat on myself. That was the start of my problems. It took a long time getting to the majors. I hope I've learned from the experience."

The first few weeks after the season, Householder visited his parents in North Haven, Conn.

"I tried to forget about baseball," he said. "But I made up my mind that after I returned to Cincinnati, I'd work my tail off preparing for next year. That's what I've done."

(Continued on Page 47, Column 1)

NEW!

BETTER

FOR 1982

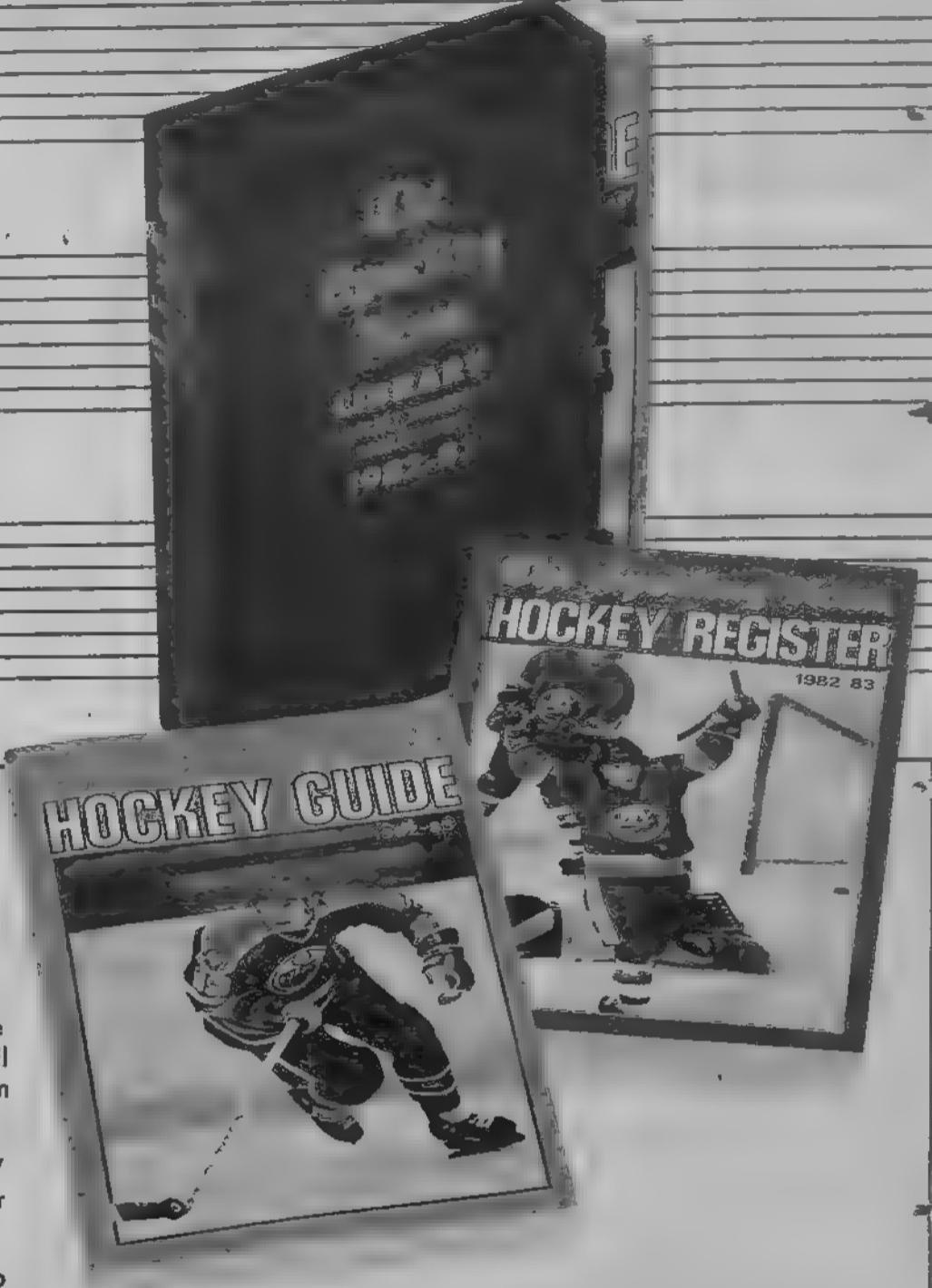
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A023

Ruthven Unsure Of 1983 Status

PHILADELPHIA—Dick Ruthven hadn't packed his bags or looked for a new abode, but he was resigned to the fact he wouldn't be pitching for the Philadelphia Phillies in 1983.

The problem started in September when he and Manager Pat Corrales had what amounted to a breakdown in communications. Then, as the Phils started their off-season shopping, Ruthven's name was mentioned in just about every trade rumor.

The Phillies' top brass went to the winter meetings, swung three deals and when the dust settled the 31-year-old righthander was still on the roster. Not only that, but Corrales was talking about how he was counting on Ruthven to play an important role in the starting rotation.

Ruthven is confused. Contacted after Christmas at his rural home near Philadelphia, Ruthven was polite, but refused to elaborate on his status and his 1982 season.

"Nothing personal," said the man teammates call Rufus. "I'm in a no-win situation. I'd rather skip the whole thing. For that reason, I'd just as soon not comment."

Ruthven, since 1978 the No. 2 starter behind Steve Carlton on the Phils' staff, posted an 11-11 record and 3.79 earned-run average in 1982. He worked 204 1/3 innings.

His season reached a low point in September when the Phils were battling the St. Louis Cardinals for first place in National League East.

On September 11, General Manager Paul Owens obtained righthander John Denny from Cleveland and on September 15, with the Phils clinging to a half-game lead over the Cardinals, Corrales started Denny. To make matters worse, Ruthven was used in relief in that game, which St. Louis won to take over first place for good.

Ruthven worked only two more times, in a horrible start against Montreal and in relief against Chicago.

Some people feel Corrales was unfair to Ruthven by bringing in Denny, who had been bothered by a sore arm, and giving him Ruthven's starting assignment. Teammates say the manager's failure to communicate with Ruthven destroyed the pitcher's confidence.

But now, after starter Mike Krukow was traded to San Francisco in the Joe Morgan-Al Holland deal, Ruthven is back on the hot seat. He is signed through 1983, but there have been hints the Phils will permit him to become a free agent rather than negotiate an extension of his contract.

It was mentioned to Ruthven that Corrales has voiced confidence that Ruthven will play an important role in 1983.

"Did he talk at length?" Ruthven asked.

No, he was told.

"Well, he never has and he has said there was no problem?" Ruthven said. "That's the way he has been all along. You know about as much as I do. If they're (Phillies) not going to talk to me, there's no way I'm going to figure out what the problem is."

Corrales denied there was a personal conflict.

"First of all, I don't play personalities," said Corrales. "That has nothing to do with it. I have never said I dislike Dick Ruthven. I made a decision (to start Denny) with the pitching staff late last season. Unfortunately, it did not work. Ruthven is one of my starting pitchers next season and I am looking for him and John Denny to pick up the slack (208 innings, 13-11 record, 3.12 ERA) lost by trading Krukow. That's all I can say about it."

Ruthven then talked about the Krukow trade.

"I am very sorry to see Mike Krukow go," said Ruthven. "It really ripped me up when the deal was made. Mike and I were like brothers. He was a very important member of the pitching staff."

"I honestly expected myself to be the one to go to San Francisco because it's close to my home. Krukow was a perfect fit here. It's a loss not only to myself and the club, but to the city of Philadelphia."

Phillies: Owens, Corrales and Larry Rojas, minor-league field administrator and instructor, were touring the Venezuelan and Colombian winter leagues. . . . Mike Schmidt will compete in the Bob Hope Desert Golf Classic the week of January 17. . . . Harry Kalas, a member of the Phillies' broadcast team, has been named Pennsylvania sportscaster of the year for 1982, the fourth time he has won the award.

HAL BODLEY



Farmer Fryman To Get \$500,000

MONTREAL—Ol' Woodie Fryman will be cranking up his left elbow in the Montreal Expos' bullpen for one more season.

It was after aiding a lady in distress on his farm in Ewing, Ky., the day before Christmas that Fryman confirmed he had come to terms with the Expos.

Fryman had tested the free-agent market when the Expos

rejected his request for a 50 percent increase on the \$400,000 he earned last season. Four clubs showed an interest—including St. Louis, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh of the N.L. East.

Fryman abided by an agreement he had made with Expos President John McHale not to discuss his salary, but it is estimated that he settled for \$500,000.

"You know me," Fryman said over the telephone from his Kentucky farm. "If I wasn't satisfied, I wouldn't sign. I've got plenty to do around here."

The 16-year major league veteran, who will turn 43 on April 12, when the Expos play their home opener at Olympic Stadium, had plenty to do on the day he was contacted.

Several of Fryman's dairy cows are producing calves these days. One cow was experiencing difficulties.

"The calf's head was bent back," Fryman explained, "and I had to straighten it out. When the head ain't between the legs, the calf don't come out and it dies. I had to help take it out."

"That's no big deal. We've had 15 or 16 new calves since the end of the season and I guess I've helped with five or six of 'em. The ol' man can do a lot of things."

One thing that Fryman has done with his baseball earnings is enlarge his property.

"I've bought another farm of 135 acres since the end of the season," Fryman revealed. "It's about half a mile from where I live. I planned on buying it whether I signed another baseball contract or not."

Fryman now owns 435 acres. He said he has "about 100 head of cattle. I'm not sure 'cause of all the little ones running around." Fryman also grows 25,000 pounds of tobacco annually.

McHale isn't worried about Fryman's age. He was 9-4 and had 12 saves in 1982 while forging an earned-run average of 3.75 in 69 innings and 60 appearances.

"What difference does it make how old he is?" asks McHale. "He is better than 90 percent of the lefthanded relievers in the game."

Expos: Fryman has agreed to a one-year contract, with the Expos holding an option for a second season. . . . Bob (Beebie) Bailey, an original Expo who still holds several team records, is no longer employed by the organization. After managerial stints at the Class A level and a job as minor league hitting instructor, Bailey has not been rehired.

IAN MACDONALD



Kaat Preparing For 25th Season

ST. LOUIS—One might presume that Jim Kaat would be satisfied, having finally earned a World Series ring after 24 seasons. But there have always been challenges to meet for the 44-year-old St. Louis Cardinals lefthander, and that's why there will be a 25th season.

While he raises trotting horses on a farm in Pennsylvania, Kaat already is plotting how he will stay the proverbial step ahead of the opposition this year.

"I want to work on my submarine delivery," said Kaat.

Last year, when he arrived in St. Petersburg, Fla., Kaat began working on the quick-pitch motion he had used with success with the Chicago White Sox in the 1970s.

But when the regular season began, "I found out it was terribly ineffective. I had to make a style change during the season, and that's kind of dangerous to do."

When Manager Whitey Herzog told Kaat that he would be facing lefthanded hitters almost exclusively, he began to experiment not only with a sidearm delivery but an underhand motion as well.

"I was kind of happy with the submarine," said Kaat. "It even helped me get Gary Carter, Andre Dawson and some other good righthanded hitters out. This spring, I hope to use the submarine right from the start of the season. I'll have a lot more confidence in it."

Kaat began his pro career in 1957 and made the majors for the first time in 1959.

"In the last two innings of the seventh World Series game last fall, I sat in the bullpen and began thinking. We didn't have it locked, but we did have Bruce Sutter on the mound. I began thinking of Superior, (1957) and Missoula, (1958) and every place else right down the line. I thought of spending all that time dreaming about a World Series. Remembering all those things made it all the more meaningful."

"I got home and a week later, I sat back like I was in a trance. You wonder whether it really happened. To really appreciate it, you had to have been in my shoes all those years."

Kaat was 5-3 last year with two saves and a 4.08 earned-run average in 62 games. He made two starts and expects the same kind of duty this year.

"It will be an all-inclusive role," he said. "Be ready when the game starts. But Whitey is a pretty easy manager to go along with. You can figure when he is going to make a move and what's he going to do."

Kaat is approaching the seasons one at a time, as always, save for a two-year contract he signed with the Philadelphia Phillies in the late 1970s. He hadn't signed his contract as the new year dawned, although he said he and the Cardinals "were not that far apart." He said an earlier report quoting offers and desires was "totally incorrect. I'm disappointed those were

mentioned because I make it a point to never discuss salary figures," said Kaat.

It is believed that Kaat made over \$200,000 in 1982 and that the Cardinals are offering a contract which would bring him close to \$300,000 if certain incentives, such as innings pitched, are met.

Kaat said he will report at St. Petersburg almost a month early, as he normally does. Meantime, he will tend to his trotters, some of which he sells in partnership with Sutter. The partnership is called Bullpen Stables.

"It's got the same challenge and competition involved in baseball," said Kaat. "You try to work and condition something that will beat somebody else. In my case, it's not to beat them on the race track but it's a knack of raising horses, good breeding and the way you handle them. You raise good yearlings and people will continue to buy from you."

Redbird Chirps: General Manager Joe McDonald estimated that the Cardinals' payroll would rise at least \$1.5 million from its approximate \$7 million level in 1982. . . . Among Cardinals doing well in winter baseball is outfielder Andy Van Slyke, a Class AA performer last year, who has six home runs at Mayaguez in the Puerto Rican League.



Pirates Predicting An Improved Berra

PITTSBURGH—Dale Berra made great strides in 1982 and more improvement is expected in 1983.

Berra, 26, will go to spring training with a lock on the regular shortstop job with the Pittsburgh Pirates. His competition will come from within. It will be up to him to show that he can become a more consistent player.

There was much pressure on him last year when he had to adjust to playing shortstop after playing third base most of his pro career that began in 1975. In 1982, Berra started off poorly and there was a time when it appeared he would not be able to hack it at shortstop. By June, he'd begun to turn things around and for three months, Berra became a solid member of the Pirates.

But in September, he had a bad stretch in the field. He made nine errors in 19 games and finished with 30 errors. If Berra can reduce his errors, say by eight or 10, he will give the Pirates consistency at a key position.

At the plate, there is room for improvement, but it won't have to be major. Berra batted .263 in 156 games, with 10 homers and 61 RBIs. His sidekick at second base, Johnny Ray, batted .281, hit seven homers and had 63 RBIs.

"We received excellent run production from the two kids," Manager Chuck Tanner said. "They are the type who will get better. Berra struggled early, while Ray seemed to fit right in to our club."

"Next spring, they both will be more relaxed. They had to adjust to each other defensively last year and it took time. In 1983, I expect both to be better."

Tanner likes both youngsters because they are the no-trouble type who enjoy playing and never let little aches and pains bother them.

"Both of them just want to go out there every day and play the game," Tanner said. "Each knows how important it is to get the job done on defense. Each knows that even if he goes 0-for-4, he can help the team in another way."

Pittsburghers: Chris Green, a 22-year-old lefthanded pitcher who won 16 games in the minors last year, may be a year away, but Tanner will give him a good look in spring training. Green was 9-1 at Alexandria (Carolina), then moved up to Buffalo in Double A and was 7-5. Another young pitcher who will be watched closely is Pete Rice, a converted outfielder who impressed Tanner and Peterson in the Florida Instructional League. Rice and Green are on the Pirates' roster, which lists 17 pitchers.

CHARLEY FEENEY



Mets Ringing In New Mound Staff

NEW YORK—Since the last pitch was thrown by Carlos Diaz on October 3, the New York Mets have disposed of half of last year's opening-day pitching staff.

With the trade of Pat Zachry to the Los Angeles Dodgers for Jorge Orta, General Manager Frank Cashen had unloaded five pitchers who started a total of 102 games for the Mets last season. Those five had a combined record of 37-51.

While disposing of the five, Cashen had imported only one new arm—Tom Seaver, who is 38.

"We're going to go with youth," Manager George Bamberger said, heartily approving and maybe even insisting on the house-cleaning.

"The guys we got rid of did not do the job that we expected of them. It's time to give the kids a chance."

(Continued on Page 47, Column 1)

N.L. East

(Continued From Page 46)

Since the season's end, the Mets released Randy Jones, traded Zachry, Mike Scott and Charlie Puleo and lost Pete Falcone through free agency. They could have kept Falcone, who wanted to stay in New York, but they didn't think the lefthander was worth what he was asking for.

Puleo, 9-9 in his rookie season, is the only pitcher the Mets were sorry to lose. But they had to surrender him in order to get Seaver home.

Bamberger said his starters would include Craig Swan, Seaver and young Rick Ownbey.

"The rest of the guys will be fighting for the two open spots," he said.

"The rest of the guys" are young pitchers Scott Holman, Jeff Bittiger, Terry Leach, Tom Gorman, Walt Terrell and Ed Lynch.

Orta may never get to wear a Mets uniform. The Mets have no need for the lefthanded hitting outfielder. Cashen frankly concedes more deals will be coming before spring training. The Mets have a half-dozen lefthanded hitters and Cashen admits "we are unbalanced" that way.

A deal sending Orta to Toronto for Barry Bonnell has been rumored.

Metscellaneous: Assistant G.M. Lou Gorman was off to the Caribbean to scout Mets farmhands in the winter leagues. . . . Bud Harrelson has been catching Seaver in the right field cage three times a week and reports "there is still a lot of pop in his arm." . . . Tim McCarver was lured away from the Phillies' broadcast team and was given a two-year contract to serve as play-by-play man in the Mets' TV booth. He will work with Ralph Kiner and Harrelson. Lorne Brown has been dropped. Bob Murphy and Steve LaMar will remain the radio team.

JACK LANG



Frick Award Caps Brickhouse Career

CHICAGO—The first time Jack Brickhouse met Ford Frick, the commissioner tried to have him removed from the World Series broadcast booth.

It was a case of mistaken identity, but there will be no misidentifying Brickhouse next summer when he enters the Hall of Fame as the recipient of, ironically, the Frick Award for broad-

casting excellence.

"I would be less than human if I said this was anything less than No. 1 in my life. Nothing in God's world can top this," said the man who was as synonymous with the Chicago Cubs off the field as Ernie Banks was on it.

Brickhouse, who has done everything in broadcasting from reading the Sunday funnies to interviewing presidents and popes, follows the late Bob Elson as the only Chicago announcer in the special media library wing at Cooperstown.

Brickhouse covered 5,060 major-league games, mostly with the Cubs. However, like Banks, he never had a role in a Cubs World Series. "I did have the White Sox Series in 1959, but the last year the Cubs won it, '45, was the year I chose to cover the Sox exclusively," Brickhouse recalled.

"So there I was, the Cubs closing in on the pennant at home while I'm calling a meaningless doubleheader between the Sox and Connie Mack's old Athletics by tickertape," he said.

The first voice on WGN-TV when it went on the air in 1948, Brickhouse retired from the Cubs' TV booth two seasons ago. He still has his own WGN radio show and is highly sought as an after-dinner speaker.

"I'm busier now than I ever was," he said. "I always considered sports first and foremost as entertainment. Dry narration was not my style. I like the 'Let's forget our troubles and have some fun' approach."

"And I always tried to keep in mind that Chicago was grass-roots country and that I was grass-roots born and reared. I didn't use the so-called sophisticated approach to broadcasting that was popular in other parts of the country."

Horse racing is the only sport Brickhouse never covered. "How can I when I can't find my own horse in the back-stretch?" he said.

Cubbyhole: For the first time, the Cubs will have two winter caravans, each January 10-13. An Indiana-Michigan swing will include Banks, Manager Lee Elia, Jay Johnstone, Larry Bowa and broadcasters Harry Caray and Steve Stone. The Illinois-Iowa trip will carry General Manager Dallas Green, Bill Buckner, Bill Campbell, Fergie Jenkins and announcers Lou Boudreau, Vince Lloyd and Milo Hamilton. The 1982 highlights film, narrated by Tom Bosley, will be shown on the caravans.

Half the Cubs' infield became fathers: Lindsey Rae was born to second baseman Ryne Sandberg and wife Cindy, and Patrick Tabler to third baseman Pat and wife Susan. . . . Bob Ibach and Ned Colletti of the public-relations staff are preparing a 100-page, 150-photo booklet devoted entirely to Cubs fans. It's due in March. . . . The club's 1983 motto: "Come to Wrigley Field. We'll surprise the daylights out of you."

JOE GODDARD

N.L. West

(Continued From Page 44)

Before returning to Connecticut for the Christmas holidays, Householder was working out three days a week at Riverfront Stadium.

What pleases Householder is that Reds President Dick Wagner has emphasized he hasn't given up on him.

"The confidence Mr. Wagner has shown in me is very encouraging," said Householder. "It really would have upset me if I'd been traded. I know Ronnie Oester was concerned when he saw his name mentioned in the offer the Reds made for Jack Clark. Ronnie doesn't want to be traded either."

Oester and lefthander Charlie Leibrandt, who was sent outright to Indianapolis (American Association) earlier in the winter, have been working out regularly with Householder.

This is the first time in several years that Householder hasn't played winter ball, so he has revived an old hobby and added another one. Bowling is the old hobby.

"I've joined two church-sponsored leagues," he said. "It's the first time I've ever bowled in league competition and I've had a lot of fun. I'm doing pretty good, averaging 167. I think my top game was 203."

Householder also has bought an electric guitar and is taking lessons.

"I try to sing, too," he said, "but I need a lot of work. Playing the guitar, though, is something I've always wanted to do. Now I have time. I've only had four lessons, but I can play two songs."

Red Hots: Wagner spent the Christmas holidays in Tampa with his family. . . . The Reds' offices were closed for the holidays.

EARL LAWSON



McReynolds Bright Outfield Prospect

SAN DIEGO—Two years ago, the San Diego Padres went to spring training with only four experienced outfielders. Now that they've signed first baseman Steve Garvey, the Padres have a surplus of outfielders and can afford to trade one for a pitcher or a backup catcher.

The late December acquisition of free agent Garvey means the Padres won't have to switch one of their outfielders—Gene Richards, Kevin McReynolds or Joe Lefebvre—to first base. It also means the Padres will begin spring training at Yuma with

six experienced outfielders, plus two rookies and a minor league prospect (McReynolds) who might overshadow all of them.

The outfield competition will be so fierce that only Sixto Lezcano seems assured of a starting job. The 29-year-old right fielder earned his spot last season when he batted .289 with 16 homers and 84 runs batted in.

Although All-Star Ruppert Jones returns in center field, Manager Dick Williams believes the veteran will be challenged strongly by Alan Wiggins. The switch-hitting rookie batted .256 and stole 33 bases in 1982, when he was limited to 72 games after volunteering to enter a drug-treatment center. Jones (.283 average, 12 homers, 61 RBIs, 18 steals) injured an ankle in late July. He was never the same after arriving at the All-Star break with a .312 average, 11 homers and 50 RBIs.

Richards (.286 average, 3 homers, 28 RBIs, 30 steals) has been a regular with the Padres for six seasons but faces stiff competition in left field from 22-year-old lefthanded hitter Tony Gwynn. Tony burned up the minors before coming up to average .289 in 54 big league games.

McReynolds isn't even on the roster and is scheduled to open next season with Las Vegas (Pacific Coast), but some suspect the powerful righthanded hitter will work his way into the San Diego lineup by midseason, if not sooner. The former Arkansas All-America was the Padres' No. 1 draft choice in June, 1981, and sat out that season while recuperating from knee surgery.

Last season, he batted .376, hit 28 homers and drove in 98 runs in 90 games at Reno (California). He was promoted late in the season to Amarillo (Texas), where he batted .352 with five homers and 39 RBIs in 40 games.

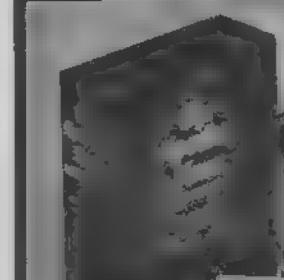
Lefebvre (.238 average), the Padres' regular right fielder in 1981, remains as a backup in the outfield or at third base. The Padres also will audition two righthanded hitting rookies of promise. Gerry Davis batted .353 with 14 homers and 67 RBIs at Amarillo before being promoted to Hawaii (Pacific Coast). There, he hit .269 and drove in 19 runs in 41 games. George Hinshaw batted .297 with 18 homers and 89 RBIs at Amarillo and averaged .267 in six games with the Padres.

General Manager Jack McKeon is expected to use one of his outfielders as trade bait for a lefthanded relief pitcher or an experienced catcher to back up Terry Kennedy.

Padres Pickups: The Padres signed up 400 new season ticket customers in the first four days after reaching a five-year, \$6.6 million agreement with Garvey. By late December, preseasont sales (\$2,266 full season and mini-season ticket plans) were running 12 percent ahead of a year ago. . . . Television commercials featuring Garvey were being aired here five days after he became a member of the organization.

PHIL COLLIER

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Chisox May 'Eat' LeFlore's Pact

CHICAGO—After losing nearly \$3 million last season and signing free agent pitcher Floyd Bannister for nearly \$1 million a season, the Chicago White Sox are paring their budget for 1983.

The austerity program already has started, with the Sox reducing their roster to 32 players. The next step may be to eat the big contract of center fielder Ron LeFlore.

 LeFlore is making an estimated \$750,000 on the last year of his contract and the Sox can find no takers, even if they pay \$400,000 of it. That leaves them with two choices: Keep LeFlore or pay him off.

It is no secret that LeFlore and Manager Tony LaRussa were at odds most of last season. LeFlore was suspended once and sat nearly the last two months of the season, used only occasionally as a pinch runner or fill-in.

"Maybe we should send the bill (for LeFlore's last year) to Mr. DeBartolo," said one high-ranking club official. It was Edward J. DeBartolo Sr.'s money that brought LeFlore to Chicago in the first place. DeBartolo's bid to buy the White Sox later was rejected after objections from Commissioner Bowie Kuhn.

LeFlore's story is not entirely over. He has another court appearance January 18 (the first two were continued) on charges of possession of a controlled substance and unregistered firearms. If he is found guilty, the Sox think they may be able to void his contract. If he is not guilty, the Sox may choose to pay him off.

Management may be getting ready for that with the roster reductions. Recent changes are the sale of infielder Jay Loviglio to the Chicago Cubs and the release of veterans Rusty Kuntz and Marv Foley.

Said Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf, "The way baseball is headed today, the player who has been around four or five years is going to suffer. You're going to have teams with superstars and first-year and second-year men. The day of a Bobby Molinaro (former Sox, Cubs and now Philadelphia pinch-hitter) may be over."

Sox Yarns: Bannister will collect \$5,000 for every 50,000 fans over 1.6 million. . . . The Sox announced a 30-game spring training schedule opening March 7 against Detroit at Sarasota. A record five games will be televised to Chicago, with 13 games on radio. . . . Two games will be played in Puerto Rico, March 21 and 22, both against the Minnesota Twins. The last game is April 3 against Pittsburgh in Sarasota.

DAVE van DYCK

The next step in the White Sox' budget cuts may be to eat the big contract of center fielder Ron LeFlore.



to have some people who can get the ball to the plate in a hurry."

Rangers Roundup: The Rangers signed free agent Larry Biittner, who hit .310 for California last season. Biittner, 35, played for Texas in 1972 and '73. . . . Klein is hoping veteran Mickey Rivers can rebound after missing most of last season with knee and ankle injuries. Rivers could also provide speed, either in left field or as a DH. He won't, however, supplant second-year man George Wright in center. . . . Klein is hoping Billy Sample can stay healthy for a full season. "I can't believe we're as bad (offensively) as we were last year," Klein said. "I think maturity for our young people will help. If Rivers can come back, that'll help. We'll also have Dave Hostettler for a full season and (rookie) Pete O'Brien could give us a lift. And I don't think Larry Parrish will have the bad first half he had last season."

The economic pinch is being felt in the Ranger's front office, where a number of employees have been let go. . . . Despite his protests, rumors continue that Owner Eddie Chiles would jump at a legitimate offer for his controlling interest in the club.

JIM REEVES



Exercise Program Tailored for A's

OAKLAND—If the Oakland A's finish fifth in the American League West again next season, it won't be because they were out of shape. Manager Steve Boros and trainer Barry Weinberg intend to see to that.

After last season, Weinberg sent each of the A's a guideline. If that guideline is followed, it should insure that each player will arrive at spring training in shape.

"I don't think spring training should be a weight loss clinic," Weinberg said. The guideline contains a program of lifting light weights, stretching and running.

Those of the A's who had injuries last year received an extra set of instructions. For example, outfielder Rickey Henderson and pitcher Steve McCatty were sent a special set of conditioning exercises to build up their sore shoulders. Outfielder Tony Armas, since traded to Boston, was given a program that should free him from some of the problems he had with a sore right thigh muscle last season.

"I told Tony to tear up his program when he got traded," Weinberg joked.

At the end of last season, each of the A's was given a strength test and Weinberg hopes that by the time the 1983 season opens, he will begin to see the results of his labor.

"I think the guys are interested," Weinberg said. "They looked at what happened last year and said, 'Hey, we need to be in shape next year.'"

Weinberg's program, which has been supplemented to some extent by Boros, is intended to offer the players a way to discipline themselves. He hopes they will follow it closely enough to make the transition from off-season to spring training to the regular season an easy one.

"If you come to spring training out of shape," Weinberg said, "it takes away from working on your baseball skills. You have to concentrate on getting in shape."

Weinberg is especially pleased at the opportunity to work with Boros.

"He's looked at my program and added to it," Weinberg said. "He's great to work with. He's into conditioning himself and into current trends."

Weinberg's job next spring will be facilitated by the hiring of Steve Rocca as a conditioning coach. Last year Weinberg had to handle bumps and bruises and stretching exercises and was on a seemingly endless shuttle between the clubhouse and the field.

A's Acorns: Henderson, Wayne Gross, Danny Meyer and Jeff Burroughs will be taking a cruise to Mexico in early February

on the Royal Viking Line. They will mingle with the passengers, give seminars and show baseball films. . . . For three weeks in January, nine players and coach Ed Nottle will be involved in the A's Safari. They will be divided into small groups and travel throughout northern California promoting the team. . . . George Mitterwald, bullpen coach for the A's the past four seasons, will manage Modesto (California).

KIT STIER

Clark Griffith Gets Veeck Endorsement

TWIN CITIES—It is not the sort of support a person would want if he were a serious candidate to replace Commissioner Bowie Kuhn, but it is interesting that Bill Veeck, the former operator of three major league franchises, believes Clark Griffith should be considered for Kuhn's job.

When Jerry Holtzman of the Chicago Tribune wrote a piece listing the six leading candidates for the position of commissioner, Veeck called Holtzman and told him he had forgotten about Griffith, an executive vice-president with the Twins.

"I told Jerry he had overlooked the most qualified person in baseball," Veeck said. "But that probably wouldn't get Clark Griffith many votes. They haven't voted in many qualified men lately."

Interestingly, Griffith also received a mention from former Oakland A's owner Charley Finley a few weeks ago as a person who would make a good replacement for Kuhn. That means Griffith has the support of baseball's two longest-standing mavericks, neither of whom now has any voice in the sport's board room.

"I'm just honored that people I consider knowledgeable in baseball feel that way about me," Griffith said. "I'm certain that nothing will come of it."

Griffith, 40, is a Dartmouth graduate. In recent years, he has served as the ownership representative in the operation of the Major League Promotions Corporation. Griffith also has been a member of the Player Relations Committee, but he was dropped along with a couple of others after the settlement of the 1981 strike.

Griffith's role with the Twins has been narrowed in recent years because of growing differences with his father, Calvin Griffith, 72, the team president. Clark has urged a more progressive approach toward marketing the Twins and paying more competitive salaries, but Calvin has stuck to his traditional, low-budget method of operation. Calvin has turned over most of the important front-office duties to Howard Fox, another executive vice-president.

"Clark Griffith has a lot of talent that hasn't been used, particularly in his situation with the Twins," Veeck said. "It is very difficult for a father-son relationship to work right. I know."

Veeck started in baseball working for his father, William Sr., then president of the Chicago Cubs.

As for the qualities it takes to be a good commissioner, Veeck said, "I'm probably the only person in baseball in recent years who spanned all the commissioners. My dad was chairman of the committee that selected Judge Landis. Since Judge Landis, the selection has been one of expedience more than anything else."

Clark Griffith is familiar with the problems that beset baseball. None of the recent commissioners have been. I've told a lot of people that I feel he is qualified, but my support is a detriment."

Doubletalk: Sparky Anderson, the Detroit manager, was quoted as saying that someone in the Tigers' front office made a mistake by allowing lefthander Paul Gibson to be exposed in the Triple-A draft at the meetings in Hawaii. The Twins selected Gibson for \$25,000, and one reason was that both Calvin Griffith and farm director George Brophy were present when Gibson shut out the Twins' team in the Florida Instructional League for five innings last fall. Gibson was released after three seasons as a starter in the Cincinnati organization, then pitched for two seasons as a reliever after being signed by the Tigers. Last summer, he was 3-3, with 12 saves and a 2.68 ERA in 44 games for Birmingham (Southern). He immediately becomes the leading candidate to be the Twins' lefthanded, late-inning reliever.

PATRICK REUSSE



Knee Surgery Gives Boone Flexibility

ANAHEIM—One of the California Angels' strengths in 1982 was in catching. The credit belongs to one man, Bob Boone.

Boone played in 143 games, the most the 35-year-old catcher had been in since 1974. He led the major leagues in throwing out 63 of 108 potential base stealers, or 58 percent. He was responsible for the Angels' being awarded the Eraser-Rate award, honoring the team most successful at preventing stolen bases.

(Continued on Page 52, Column 1)

Durable Morris Gets Rich Pact

DETROIT—He was going to be the toughest Tiger to sign. Jack Morris already had gone the arbitration route once, and another clash with Detroit Tigers management was hardly a far-fetched thought.

But a funny thing happened to Morris on his way to free agency. He stopped to sign a \$3.2 million contract that will keep him in Detroit another four years.

For the Tigers the most positive measure of an otherwise inconsequential trek to Hawaii for the winter meetings was the signing of Morris. He's a durable starter who has won 61 games the last four years.

Along with agent Dick Moss, Morris started talking with the Tigers about a long-term contract at the end of last season. He wasn't always confident he would even be coming back in a Tigers uniform, however.

"I'm going to win my games," Morris said, "but I can't tell you where. If it's with the Tigers, fine, but anybody can be traded."

Morris fell short of the 20 wins he wanted, but another workhorse season (266 innings) made him a player the Tigers had to sign to be contenders.

"There are some things the club has to do this winter," said Milt Wilcox shortly after the season ended. "It must sign Larry Herndon and Jack Morris. We're not going anywhere next year or beyond without keeping our frontline players."

Herndon, Chet Lemon, Enos Cabell and Mike Ivie were in the first wave of Tiger signings this winter. Lou Whitaker was next, inking a five-year contract for \$3 million.

Assistant General Manager Bill Lajoie, who does all the negotiating with agents, then turned his attention to Morris and Moss. Most of the talks were hush-hush. The Tigers make it a practice not to discuss contract talks or signings even after they occur—and Morris was wintering as usual in the north woods of Wisconsin.

He wanted all talks to be private, including the final sessions in Hawaii. When most of the winter-meetings contingent was checking out of the Sheraton Waikiki, Morris was walking into the hotel after spending the week on Maui for a meeting of player representatives.

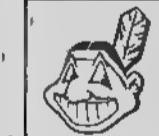
"I thought you guys would be gone by now," he said. When asked if his appearance was significant, the Tiger pitcher added, "Maybe, maybe not."

Moss put the situation in plainer terms: "I believe the Tigers will want to call a press conference soon."

They never do for player signings, however. But this time, with another key to the future under long-term contract, it must have been a temptation.

Tiger Tales: With multiple player signings and the announcement that Tiger Stadium will receive a new exterior covering soon, it's been a busy off-season for the front office. It's also been an eventful time for traveling secretary Bill Brown. He and Judy James of Sterling Heights, Mich. were married.... Dave Rozema continues to make progress in rehabilitation from knee surgery but the Tigers say they aren't counting on him for the start of the season.

TOM GAGE



Franco Clears Up A Few Fallacies

CLEVELAND—They say numbers don't lie, but Julio Franco, the Cleveland Indians' new shortstop, has another option.

The Indians brought Franco into town to meet the media. He also was there to clear up some misconceptions.

Fallacy No. 1: The Philadelphia media guide says Franco is 5-11 and 155 pounds. One Cleveland columnist, who never saw Franco, said he was closer to 5-9.

"Not true," said Franco. "I'm 6-1 and 180 pounds."

Fallacy No. 2: The Phillies' guide says he was born August 28, 1958. That would make the shortstop 23.

"Not true," said Franco. "I am 21, born August 8, 1961. The Phillies made that mistake two years ago. I told them, but they said they'd printed too many books to fix it."

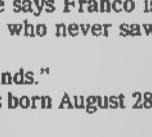
Fallacy No. 3: Some baseball guides say he is a switch-hitter. "I always have hit righthanded," explained Franco.

There is one area, however, where the books never falter—Franco's batting average.

"When I signed my first pro contract, I told my mother that I would hit .300 for her every year," said Franco.

So far, Franco has been a good son, true to his word. In five minor league seasons, he owns a .314 batting average. Last year he hit .300 with 21 homers, 66 RBIs and 33 stolen bases at Oklahoma City (American Association).

"I'm ready for the big leagues," said Franco. "Everywhere I've played, I've done the job. I've always hit. I don't know what else I had to show the Phillies. I was happy to get traded to the Indians because they say I'm going to get a chance."



Piniella Is Yankee Insurance Policy



NEW YORK—Lou Piniella has fit smoothly into the New York Yankees' scheme as a righthanded designated hitter and occasional right fielder. But suddenly, after two off-season acquisitions, Piniella doesn't seem to fit at all.

Owner George Steinbrenner, who loves to play the free-agent game, dipped into this season's pool and pulled out Don Baylor and Steve Kemp. Baylor figures to be the DH, Kemp is slated for right field.

So where does that leave Piniella, a .296 hitter during his nine seasons with the Yankees?

"I'm more of an insurance policy than anything else," Piniella said from his New Jersey home. "I'm a pinch-hitter and I'll probably play once in a while against certain lefthanders or if someone gets hurt. Chances are, I'm not going to play all that much. But whatever they want me to do, I'll be ready."

Piniella, who'll be 40 in August, isn't upset by the arrival of Baylor and Kemp. Even though his playing time will probably be significantly reduced, he thinks the moves were good ones for the Yankees.

"Offensively, they're going to help us a great deal," Piniella said. "They both hit well with men on base and they could each drive in 100 runs. With Baylor and Kemp and Dave Winfield, we could have the most devastating lineup we've had in a long time."

"And when you have guys like myself and Oscar Gamble and Bobby Murcer in backup spots, then the bench is strong. During the course of a season, the difference between a good team and a championship team is the bench strength. I don't think any team in the league matches our bench."

Piniella meanwhile will have extra duties in addition to his role as an "insurance policy." He became the Yankees' hitting instructor last August and made significant progress with Roy Smalley and Andre Robertson. Both infielders have said they plan to attach themselves to Piniella during spring training to resume work.

"That's fine with me," said Piniella. "I enjoy helping guys with their hitting—especially when they're my teammates."

Yankee Doodles: Piniella and Murcer have been named co-recipients of the first Joe DiMaggio Toast of the Town Award by the New York chapter of the Baseball Writers' Association of America. The award, which will be presented by DiMaggio at the January 23 dinner, is designed for New York players who have achieved special success and popularity.... Outfielder Dave Collins, traded to the Toronto Blue Jays, said he had been getting worried about his status with the Yankees before the trade. "When they signed Baylor and Kemp, I couldn't figure out what I was going to do," said Collins. "Last year in spring training, I played in the B squad games. This year, they would have had to make up a C or D squad for me."

MOSS KLEIN

Brewers in Demand All Over Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE—The desk in John Counsell's office is piled high these days. There are letters, date books, message slips, you name it. Another pile on the floor behind him rivals the batch on top of the desk.

And the phone. Counsell's telephone extension rivals the one in the Milwaukee Brewers' ticket office in popularity.

Counsell is the director of the Brewers' speakers bureau. It seems that every Lions Club in Wisconsin wants to hear one of the Brewers make a speech. Most of the shopping centers in the area have called to find out if Jim Gantner, Charlie Moore, Gorman Thomas or Pete Vuckovich could come out and sign autographs.

The calls and letters are all directed to Counsell.

"I've been here for five years," Counsell said. "This has been easily the most fun of any year I've been here."

Winning a pennant will do things like that. The epidemic of

Brewers Fever that gripped the state while the Brewers were on the way to the World Series hasn't waned.

"The requests this year are probably five times what they usually are," Counsell said. "The amazing thing is it's all over the state. And this year, other banquets around the country are after us."

"I heard from a number of the banquets last year when Rollie Fingers won the Cy Young and Most Valuable Player awards. This year, we've heard from at least 25 banquets. They want Robin Yount, Harvey Kuenn or Vuckovich. But they'll take anyone from the team."

The national exposure is the real breakthrough. The Brewers, isolated in the upper Midwest, had never attracted much national attention until they made their first playoff appearance in the American League's mini-playoffs in 1981.

"This is all new," Counsell said. "Pete Vuckovich is going to the Dapper Dan banquet in Pittsburgh. That works out great because he's from Pennsylvania. That's a big one."

"Cecil Cooper is on a lot of local TV ads. Coop is known for having an excellent TV or radio voice. And he's such a perfectionist he will take a script home and memorize it and not get involved in the cue cards at all. He's good at that."

"We've been getting requests from everywhere. It's just amazing."

Foaming Over: Award winners who'll be honored at the Brewers' Diamond Dinner, scheduled January 23 at the Pfister Hotel, were predictable. Yount was named the team's most valuable player and Vuckovich was named the most valuable pitcher. Thomas, who shared the home run title with California's Reggie Jackson, won the home run award, and Yount won the Harvey Kuenn Award for leading the team in hitting. The winner of the Unsung Hero Award and the John Fetzer Award for contributions to baseball were to be announced.

TOM FLAHERTY



Jays' Griffin Is '82 Iron Man

TORONTO—Throughout the six-year history of the Toronto Blue Jays, trainer Ken Carson has kept an annual log of injuries.

He records the number of games missed, excluding the pitchers because of the difficulty in determining the exact numbers for them.

The Carson report for 1982 shows the Jays had players missing for a total of 148 days, which is midway between the record high of 235 days in 1980, and the record low of 85 days in 1979.

However, from Carson's standpoint, it was a satisfying season because two players, Wayne Nordhagen (66 days) and Otto Velez (38 days before being released), accounted for over two-thirds of the injury total.

Four players—shortstop Alfredo Griffin and outfielders Barry Bonnell, Hosken Powell and Anthony Johnson—were available for every game. Griffin played in all 162 games, despite injuries.

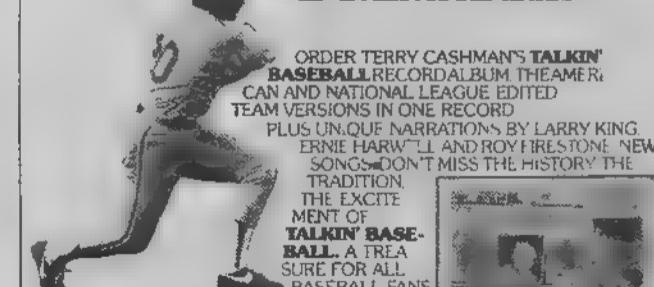
"Griff had a sore wrist for five days, and he took treatment for a bone bruise on the hip for a week," said Carson.

Griffin's biggest problem was an injured left thumb that required treatment for 17 days.

(Continued on Page 52, Column 1)

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AFC East

(Continued From Page 32)



Hannah Joins List Of Disgruntled Pats

FOXBORO, Mass.—Turmoil has been a constant companion of the New England Patriots in the franchise's 22 years. This season, the gulf between new Coach Ron Meyer and many of his players is wide and getting wider.

Matters came to a head when guard John Hannah popped off about Meyer's techniques. "We were beaten in all four phases of the game," said Hannah after New England lost to Pittsburgh, 37-14. "Offense, defense, special teams and coaching, and I want you to quote me on that. I'm sick and tired of this baloney."

Hannah later said that he, too, wished to be traded from the Patriots, adding himself to a growing list. "I'd say there are at least 20 and maybe 30 guys who want to be traded," said tight end Don Hasselbeck. "And those are just the ones who'll say it on the record."

Hannah reportedly met with Meyer after his comments and the coach said the team would try to accommodate the All-Pro's request for a trade. Meyer added he thought a deal might be difficult because of Hannah's "attitude." Meyer also reportedly referred to Hannah's religious beliefs, calling his remarks about the coaching staff "un-Christian."

The strife erupted as the Patriots made a run at the playoffs. New England was 2-14 last season and while it wasn't going from worst to first, the improvement was noteworthy. So was the growing criticism of the coach.

Running back Andy Johnson, banished to the injured reserve list in training camp, also met with Meyer with the coach calling him a bad influence and indicating he wouldn't be offered a new contract when he becomes a free agent February 1. Johnson said Meyer told him "a long time ago that he didn't like my

personality and that I should change it."

"We hadn't spoken hardly at all since then until Tuesday (December 28)," said Johnson. "What I don't like is that they have taken a year out of my career when there was absolutely no need for it."

Many players regard Meyer's rules and regulations as trivial. Players can't leave their hotels before a road game, buses must be boarded according to position, offensive players go on the offensive bus, etc. "We're grown men," said Hasselbeck, "and we should be treated as such."

But there was unrest over other incidents. Running back Vagas Ferguson was run off the practice field and fined \$1,000 for not running a play as Meyer wished. "He used obscene language on me I've never heard before," said Ferguson, who said that it was impossible to run the play as Meyer wished "because I would have run up the backs of the offensive line. It was degrading."

But many of the players were concerned with more than rules and discipline. They feel the Patriots' offense has weakened into a mere shell of itself. "All it takes to stop us is to double-team Stanley (Morgan) and stop our three running plays," said one player. "I wouldn't think that'd be too hard to do."

Meyer has remained upbeat, his smile and his temper in good control. "When teams lose, then everything is bad," said the coach.

But the Patriots weren't losing.

Pats Patter: After losing the starting job to Steve Grogan, quarterback Matt Cavanaugh was demoted to third-string behind Tom Flick. Cavanaugh, though, replaced Flick against the Steelers after Grogan suffered a slight concussion and passed for 220 yards in slightly more than a quarter of action.... The defense was hampered by nagging injuries to linebackers Don Blackmon (knee) and Larry McGrew (ankle). . . . Morgan is fourth on the Patriots' all-time list of receivers with 207 catches. . . . Hannah and cornerback Mike Haynes were named to the AFC Pro Bowl squad. Punter Rich Camarillo (44.3 average) barely lost out to Denver's Luke Prestridge.

MICHAEL MADDEN

AFC West

(Continued From Page 34)

It is even more difficult to beat somebody, said Reeves, when most of the turnovers were on the minus side of the field and three were returned for touchdowns.

Turnovers, said Reeves, are generally the result of a negative frame of mind more than any mechanical breakdowns. "You don't want to harp on it in practice," he said, "because all that does is create a negative frame of mind. Nobody wants to fumble. Nobody wants to throw an interception. We have drills designed to work on fumbling, but really, all you want to do is build confidence. You don't want to dwell on it."

Confidence, admitted Reeves, is something the 2-7 Broncos lacked after the resumption of the season, probably because of an inordinate number of changes in the lineup.

The Broncos started three different quarterbacks this season, but even more damaging than that was a season-long reconstruction project in the secondary.

First, habitual Pro-Bowler Billy Thompson retired, leaving the strong safety position to Dennis Smith. Then, free safety Steve Foley suffered a broken arm in the first game of the season, moving Mike Harden into that position. Meanwhile, cornerback Aaron Kyle struggled badly when the season resumed, so newcomer Steve Wilson, a Dallas reject, was moved into his position. Harden went out with a knee injury five games into the season, then Smith went down in the seventh. So Denver finished the season with only cornerback Louis Wright in his normal position.

"It's tough when you lose two free safeties and have your strong safety retire," said Reeves. "It hurt us most in our five and six-back defenses because the people we were using in those situations ended up starting."

Bronco Busters: Despite their record, the Broncos placed three players—linebacker Randy Gradishar, kick returner Rick Upchurch and punter Luke Prestridge—on the AFC Pro Bowl team. That may have been three more than they deserved, but it was one less than the All-Star team deserved as Louis Wright probably had the best year of his consistently brilliant career.

JOSEPH SANCHEZ

PRO TRANSACTIONS

Baseball

Mets—Traded pitcher Pat Zachry to Dodgers for outfielder Jorge Orta

Rangers—Signed first baseman-outfielder Larry Biittner as free agent.

Royals—Re-signed free agent pitcher Paul Splittorff.

Basketball

Bucks—Placed guard Brian Winters (pulled hamstring) on injured list; signed

forward-center Sam Pellom to a 10-day contract.

Bullets—Placed guard Don Collins (foot) on injured list.

Hawks—Placed guard Keith Edmonson (hip) on injured list; traded cash, a 1983 No. 2 draft choice and the option of exchanging second-round picks in 1984 to Indiana for guard Johnny Davis.

Knicks—Placed forward Sly Williams (knee) on injured list.

Mavericks—Restored injured forward Corny Thompson to active roster

Nets—Placed forwards Mike O'Koren

(wrist) and Albert King (knee) on injured list.

Nuggets—Placed center Rich Kelley (ankle) on injured list; signed CBA guard Dwight Anderson to a 10-day contract.

Pistons—Placed forward Cliff Livingston (hand) on injured list; signed CBA forward James Wilkes to a 10-day contract.

Football

NFL

Bears—Resigned LB Dan Rains from injured reserve after clearing procedural waivers; placed WR James Scott (hamstring) on injured reserve.

Bengals—Activated CB John Simmons from injured reserve, released QB Mike Ford

Broncos—Activated LB Darren Comeaux from injured reserve; placed S Mike Harden (knee) on injured reserve

Browns—Activated LB Clay Matthews from injured reserve; placed CB Lawrence Johnson (knee) on injured reserve.

Colts—Re-signed CB Lamont Meacham as free agent after clearing procedural waivers; placed S Jeff Delaney (calf) on injured reserve.

Dolphins—Activated RB Woody Bennett from injured reserve; placed G Ed Newman (knee) on injured reserve.

Eagles—Activated G Dean Miraiki from injured reserve; placed OT Jerry Sisemore (knee) on injured reserve.

Giants—Activated DL Dee Hardison from injured reserve, placed WR Johnny Perkins (back) on injured reserve.

Lions—Activated S Billy Cesare from injured reserve; re-signed WR Edward Lee and DB Danny Wagoner from injured reserve after clearing procedural waivers; placed CB James Hunter (neck), WR Mark Nichols (broken foot) and RB Ken Callcott (knee) on injured reserve.

Packers—Activated OT Angelo Fields from injured reserve; placed OT Karl Swanson (knee) on injured reserve.

Rams—Re-signed LB Howard Carson from injured reserve after clearing procedural waivers; placed LB Jim Youngblood (knee) on injured reserve.

Saints—Activated RBs Marvin Lewis and Toussaint Tyler from injured reserve; placed TE Hoby Brenner (knee) on injured reserve.

Seahawks—Activated DE Fred Anderson from injured reserve; placed DT Robert Hardy (broken ankle) on injured reserve.

Vikings—Activated DL Ray Yakavonis

from injured reserve; placed WR Ahmad Rashad (back) on injured reserve.

USFL

Arizona—Signed LBs Ron Shuman (49ers '79) and Keith Alexander, DBs Lyndell Jones (Chiefs '82) and Al Strandberg (Cowboys '82), DL Marcus Jackson, NG Lamar Evans and OL Jeff Watson.

Birmingham—Signed OTs Buddy Aydelotte (Packers '82) and Chris Koehne (Packers '82), S Charles Grandjean, DBs Sedrick King and Steve Harris (Broncos '82), QB Joe Dotson, LB Marvin Steward, Gs Ron Gilmore and Tim James (Bills '82) and DEs Alrie Jarrell (Buccaneers '82), Freddie Moultry and Ron Frederick (Buccaneers '82).

Chicago—Signed CB Virgil Livers (Packers '82), QB David Mays (Bills '79), WRs Kupper Bell, Derick Foster and Donald Treadwell (Browns '82), G Scott Boucher (Broncos '82), DT Kit Lathrop (Packers '81), LB Bruce Gheesling and DBs Wayne Clemons, Randy Hutchings, David Johnson and Derrick Thurman.

Oakland—Signed CBs Kevin Donnalley (Patriots '82) and John Willis (Seahawks '82), RB Clarence Hawkins, DE Alva Liles, S Mike O'Brien, OT Kurt Jonker (49ers '82), DT Dupre Marshall (Bears '82), FB Ted Torosian (Bills '82), LBs David Shaw and Dwayne Wilkes and G Steve Houston (Lions '82).

Washington—Signed TE Reggie Hayes (Chargers '80), WR Zion McKinney (Redskins '80), CB Brian Musselman (Patriots '82) and CB Don Barrell.

Hockey

Black Hawks—Assigned center Reg Kerr to Springfield.

Blues—Returned goaltender Rick Heinz to Salt Lake City.

Canadiens—Recalled goaltender Mark Holden and center John Chabot from Nova Scotia.

Capitals—Recalled center Chris Valentine from Hershey; recalled and returned to Hershey goaltender Dave Parro and defenseman Lee Norwood.

Devils—Assigned center Glenn Mersky to Wichita and recalled left wing John Wensink and center Dave Cameron from same club.

Flyers—Recalled defenseman Bob Hoffmeyer from Maine.

Jets—Recalled defenseman Jim Kyte from Cornwall.

Kings—Assigned center Pierre Giroix to New Haven and recalled left wing Scott Grubl from same club.

North Stars—Recalled defenseman Bob Bergloff from Birmingham.

Penguins—Placed defenseman Pat Price on irrevocable waivers; assigned left wing Tim Hrynewich to Sudbury and right wing Steve Gatzos to Baltimore; recalled right wing Rich Sutter from Lethbridge and left wing Jim Hamilton from Baltimore.

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A.L. West

(Continued From Page 48)

Boone proved wrong those who said his skills had deteriorated. He batted .256 and drove in 58 runs, despite hitting ninth in the batting order.

The work load took its toll, however. In the latter part of the season, Boone played with an ailing left knee, the same knee that needed surgery in 1979, when Boone was with Philadelphia.

After the 1982 season, Boone underwent arthroscopic surgery on the knee.

"He said he couldn't believe the difference," an Angels spokesman said. "He said he has so much more flexibility."

Though he surely would not admit it, Boone could probably benefit by playing fewer games. He was not given that luxury in 1982, when Joe Ferguson was his backup. Ferguson caught in just 32 games.

The Angels' catching corps could have considerably more depth in the 1983 season. The key lies in Ed Ott's recovery from rotator cuff surgery.

Ott, 31, missed the entire season in 1982, but his rehabilitation program reportedly is on schedule.

Should Ott be recovered by opening day, the Angels would have an additional capable catcher. Ott also lends offensive versatility—he bats lefthanded.

Ferguson's future with the Angels probably depends on Ott. With former catcher Brian Downing playing left field, the

Angels have no need to keep three catchers, which would leave Ferguson as the odd man out.

Angels Angles: As a team, Angels catchers threw out 69 of 128 potential base stealers, or 54 percent. The Detroit Tigers were second in the league at 43 percent. Montreal was best in the National League at 39 percent. . . . The Angels, who set an A.L. attendance record in 1982 with 2,807,360 fans, already had sold 1,000 new season tickets by the end of December.

JOHN STREGE



M's Hope Putnam Finds Old Magic

SEATTLE—The Seattle Mariners are hoping that Pat Putnam, acquired for relief pitcher Ron Musselman, can find Seattle to be the salvation for a fading career, much like Al Cowens was reborn in a Mariners' uniform last summer.

"You are not going to get an Al Cowens every time you turn around," said Mariners Manager Rene Lachemann, "but I look at his age (Putnam is 29) and situation, and he should be in his prime. Just like Cowens, he is coming off an off year and didn't play."

Putnam will get his chance to play in Seattle. With Bruce

trade at the minor league level."

Bird Seed: The deletion of Ford and Graham leaves the Orioles with 37 men on their roster. It was a preliminary move to keep spots open for catcher Joe Nolan and outfielder John Lowenstein, both of whom went through the re-entry draft. The Orioles reached an agreement with Nolan, who was expected to officially sign shortly after the holidays.

JIM HENNEMAN



Houk Sees Gains By Bosox Pitchers

BOSTON—Manager Ralph Houk didn't get the premier starting pitcher he wanted when he looked under his tree on Christmas morning.

Despite the possibility of going into next season with the same Boston starting pitchers who caused problems last year, he's looking forward to the challenge of 1983.

"I'm getting a little tired of sitting around and right now I'm ready to get things going," Houk said. "I think the fans of Boston and New England will like the team we've put together and I'm looking forward to a good year."

Houk feels the Sox are improved with the addition of Tony Armas and Jeff Newman in the trade which sent Carney Lansford to the Oakland A's. Houk has a hunch, too, that Doug Bird, obtained in the deal that sent Chuck Rainey to the Chicago Cubs, may prove a solid pitcher.

"We lost chances to win games last year because we didn't have that guy who could hit one over the fence in the late innings, except for Jim Rice and Dwight Evans," Houk said.

"Armas gives us that extra threat, and batting behind Evans and Rice, he'll make it tougher for pitchers to work around either of those guys."

Houk feels Armas can also provide the clubhouse lift that Lansford and the veteran Tony Perez delivered last season. Perez was released after the season.

"Armas is the same type of person as Lansford and Perez," the manager said. "From all I hear, he's a tremendous asset, both as a player and in the clubhouse, just as Perez and Lansford were."

"Lansford will be missed, but now I'll be able to keep Wade Boggs and Dave Stapleton in the lineup at the same time. That's something I couldn't do many times last year. Now I'll have Boggs at third and Stapleton at first, where he belongs."

"Boggs proved he could hit in the big leagues and I think he did a decent job filling in at third. I see no reason why he won't improve by getting the chance to work fulltime at the position in the spring."

"Stapleton has the benefit of a year's experience at first base and will be even better than he was last season. I always said Stapleton could play anywhere but I've felt all along that first base would be his best spot."

Houk knows the team will live and die with the pitching. "Maybe Bruce Hurst and Bobby Ojeda needed that year of experience," Houk suggested. "You never know with pitchers. This could be the year they blossom into the winners I feel they can be."

"Maybe some of our other youngsters (Mike Brown, Steve Crawford, Dennis (Oil Can) Boyd, Brian Denman) will come through. I don't have the answer now, but I can't wait for spring training to get an idea how things will fall into place."

Sox Footnotes: The Boston baseball writers have named Milwaukee Brewers General Manager Harry Dalton executive of the year and will honor him at their annual dinner January 27. . . . The Red Sox all-time "dream team" as voted by the fans will be announced in January

JOE GIULIOTTI

Bochte having retired and Joe Simpson now with Kansas City, the Mariners did not have a pure lefthanded hitter with major league experience on their roster until they acquired Putnam. Lachemann will let Putnam and righthanded hitting Jim Maier fight it out for the first base job this spring, and the Mariners feel optimistic that Putnam will return to his 1979 form when he hit 18 home runs for Texas and was THE SPORTING NEWS American League Rookie Player of the Year.

"I think the ballpark in Texas hurt Pat Putnam more from a mental standpoint than anyone I've ever seen," said Mariners designated hitter Richie Zisk, who was with Texas during Putnam's first two years. "He's got tremendous power to left center, right center and right field and in Texas that meant he always was battling the wind. He hit balls that would have been out of the Kingdom but in Arlington Stadium the wind held them up."

After his rookie season, in which Putnam hit .277 with 64 runs batted in, he slumped to .263 with 13 homers and 55 RBIs in 1980 and to .266 with eight homers and 35 RBIs in 1981. Then came the summer of 1982. On May 28 he was sent to Denver (American Association) with a .210 batting average and just four RBIs.

The first few weeks in Denver, Putnam struggled, but he finished up hitting .310 with 13 homers and 60 RBIs in 281 at-bats for the Bears. Now, he says his demotion was a blessing.

"It took me a while to adjust and get my natural swing back," said Putnam. "Finally, I got it down. The one good thing about being sent down was I got my confidence back. I know I'm still capable."

Lachemann would like to put Cowens, Zisk and Putnam Nos. 3, 4 and 5 in the batting order. The skipper sees Putnam as an ideal No. 5 hitter, giving Cowens a chance to move into the third spot.

"When you look at what he has done on the major league level, you know the ability is there," Lachemann said of Putnam. "We'll give him a chance to show he hasn't lost the touch."

Mariners Log: Lachemann is hoping to open the early part of spring training February 18. . . . As opposed to last year, when he went to camp with a starting rotation pretty well in his mind, Lachemann says Gaylord Perry and Jim Beattie are the only pitchers with solid spots in the rotation this time around.

TRACY RINGOLSBY



U. L., Quisenberry Weigh K. C. Offers

KANSAS CITY—When the Kansas City Royals sign shortstop U.L. Washington and relief pitcher Dan Quisenberry to multi-year contracts, which they hope to do soon, they will have 10 of their top 14 players locked in for the next two to five years.

"Nucleus" is a pet word among Royals officials President Joe Burke and General Manager John Schuerholz subscribe to a policy of long-term contracts to retain the heart of the club's lineup.

The only free agents of consequence the Royals have signed are Larry Gura and Hal McRae—from their own roster. They have gone after a few others and been rejected—Catfish Hunter, Tommy John, Pete Rose, Ron Guidry, Dave Collins and Floyd Bannister.

The Royals have appeared to play a pat hand the last several years while slumping from their three-year perch atop the American League West from 1976-78. They won again in 1980, but staggered in 1979 and 1982.

Several changes have occurred on the roster, but few major changes. Outfielder Al Cowens was traded to California in a deal for Willie Aikens, who became the regular first baseman in 1980. Catcher Darrell Porter left and John Wathan became the No. 1 catcher in '81. Jerry Martin took over for Clint Hurdle in right field in '82, and Vida Blue joined the pitching rotation.

Entering '83, five key players could become free agents: Wathan, Gura, Washington and Amos Otis.

Martin is in the third year of a three-year contract he signed with the San Francisco Giants, with two additional years at the club's option. Otis enters the second year of a two-year contract, plus one year at the club's option.

Wathan goes into the third year of a three-year contract, and Gura finishes the five-year deal he agreed on after the re-entry draft of 1978.

Among the rest, Aikens is the only regular the Royals have not been eager to sign to a long-term commitment. He went to arbitration last year and might wind up there again. The Royals don't rush on players who don't qualify for free agency. Aikens is entering his fifth full year in the majors.

Washington is a key signee because the 1983 season will be his sixth, qualifying him for free-agent status. That's why the Royals were cautious in talking of trading Onix Concepcion. They want Washington's name on a dotted line for more than '83.

Quisenberry has three-plus years of service. The Royals would like to get him committed to three or four years. He went to arbitration last year and will go again if the long-term money isn't right.

Royalties: Free agent Paul Splittorff, the 36-year-old lefthander who has been a regular with the Royals since 1971, was re-signed to a two-year contract.

MIKE MCKENZIE



Ex-Phenoms Ford, Graham Dropped

BALTIMORE—The year-end revisions made by General Manager Hank Peters on the Baltimore Orioles' roster serve as a graphic illustration on how quickly baseball fortunes can change.

Just three years ago, after being obtained from Minnesota in a minor league trade, Dan Graham was the surprise of spring training camp. After a brief stint at Rochester (International) he hit 15 home runs in 86 games for the Orioles.

Six years ago, after compiling a 17-7 record with Charlotte (Southern), Dave Ford was a 19-year-old phenom who was considered the best pitching prospect in an organization that produces pitchers faster than George Steinbrenner opens his checkbook.

Today neither is on a major league roster. Both were unceremoniously dropped by the Orioles just a few days before contracts went into the mail.

The move was almost unnoticed, and Peters later admitted the two had been carried on the roster that long in the hope they could be used in a trade package. "But nothing materialized and since neither really figures in our plans for next year, we decided to make the moves now," said Peters.

The primary consideration, naturally, was financial. If Ford and Graham had been signed to contracts, the club would have been obligated for at least part of their salaries.

Peters indicated that neither Ford nor Graham would be invited to training camp, leaving their careers in limbo.

"We haven't reached the point yet where we've given them permission to see if they can make their own deals, but that is a possibility after we evaluate our system the first of the year," said Peters.

"Right now, we're looking into the possibilities of making a

Ethan Allen's Gift to Baseball Fans

NEW YORK—In these bleak days and weeks following baseball's winter meetings, when spring and the first cries of "play ball" seem so far off, permit me to jog your memory just a bit. Remember "All Star Baseball?"

"All Star Baseball" was to this baseball fan an absolute godsend to get us through those awful winter months. Think back now just a little. The game with the spinner and discs. Babe Ruth with the extra large home run space on his disc? Nellie Fox with the home run space that was minuscule? The all-stars of the past—Ruth, Gehrig, Hornsby, etc.—against the all-stars of the present—Williams, Mantle, etc.?

"All Star Baseball" for all its simplicity was the best of all winter pastimes. It wasn't until many years later that I learned "All Star Baseball's" creator was a former major leaguer named Ethan Allen.

Allen, an outfielder with the Reds, Giants, Cardinals, Phillies, Cubs and Browns in the 1920s and '30s, compiled a .300 average for 13 seasons in the majors. He retired after the '38 season and went to work for the National League as head of the film department. Later, Allen would achieve acclaim as a baseball coach at Yale for 20 years. But for us kids in the frozen New York winters, Ethan Allen gave us the greatest gift of all: baseball in the warmth of our dens.

I am therefore most happy to report two things. First, Ethan Allen is alive and well, living in Chapel Hill, N.C., and still working on indoor baseball games. Second, much to my surprise, "All Star Baseball" is alive and well. You just have to look a little harder to find it in the toy stores.

If you can't find it, you can write the Cadaco Co., 301 West Polk, Chicago, for information. I've also seen many of the discs

COLLECTING MEMORIES

By BILL MADDEN



offered for sale and trade in hobby publications.

"I would hope it's still around," Allen said, "because I'm still making up new discs each year for it. We do about 10 to 12 new players every year although it's become increasingly harder because Miller (Marvin Miller, retiring executive director of the Major League Players Association) has briefed the players about giving their 'release' to us, and some won't sign."

In talking to Allen about his pastime, I wondered how he, as a major league player, decided to get involved in the game business.

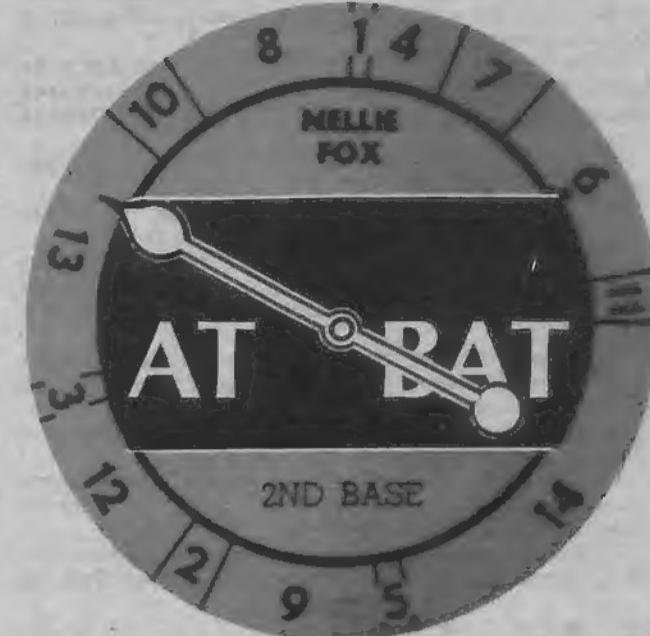
"It kind of evolved gradually," Allen explained. "I had this idea, even when I was playing, that you could put a man's playing record on a disc. While I was with the Cubs in 1936, I went to various manufacturers with the hope of selling the idea to them as a game, only to have most of them practically kick me out of their offices."

"Then I went to Cadaco, whose president at the time was a very direct and straight-talking guy. He listened to me and then blurted out: 'That's a good idea, we'll do it!' They don't make people like that anymore. No questions. We just did it. 'All Star Baseball' has been going since 1941."

As memory serves me, there are 62 players in each edition of "All Star Baseball" and I was always delighted that none of my favorites were left out. I was a big Nellie Fox fan and equally frustrated over the fact he couldn't hit any more home runs on his disc than he did in actuality on the field. Considering that Allen was a pretty fair player in his time, it seemed only natural that he would include himself in the game at least once.

"I always resisted that," he said modestly. "I was never an All-Star. But I finally put myself in one year because of all the prodding I got from the kids."

Allen, 79 on New Year's Day, continues to write books on baseball as well as working on an electronic baseball game to complement "All Star Baseball." With his knowledge of statistics and with the Hall of Fame voting coming up, I thought he might have an opinion to register with the Veterans Committee.



Nellie's Homer (1) was small but you could count on him to hit 13, which meant "Single—runners could advance two bases."

"I do," he said. "I don't see how they have left Charlie Grimm out. He had all the stats as a good-hitting, fine-fielding first baseman and then he went on to serve as a manager and executive. He did it all."

Except for one thing. If Allen made a disc on Charlie Grimm, the home run space would have to be almost as minuscule as the one for Nellie Fox.

Brooks Robinson Heads '83 Hall Ballot

By JACK LANG

NEW YORK—Voters in this year's Hall of Fame balloting, currently under way, are the best informed in the 37-year history of the elections. More information on each of the 46 candidates is provided the voters this year than ever before.

Lifetime statistics of the 17 pitchers and 29 players on the ballot are provided by THE SPORTING NEWS. In addition, the envelopes mailed to more than 400 members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America also include a brief summary of each man's career.

The outstanding rookie candidate on this year's ballot is Brooks Robinson, who for 23 years was the brilliant third baseman of the Baltimore Orioles.

Robinson is one of 23 freshmen on the ballot, who along with the 23 holdovers must achieve 75 percent of the returned vote to gain election to the Cooperstown, N.Y., shrine.

The 23 freshmen earned spots on the ballot by passing a six-man screening committee of the BBWAA which reviewed



Gil Hodges



Brooks Robinson

the credentials of the 38 players who were newly eligible for consideration.

The list of holdovers is impressive and includes Juan Marichal, Harmon Killebrew, Gil Hodges and Don Drysdale.

For Hodges, the ex-Brooklyn Dodgers great, this is a final chance. Hodges received 200 or more votes each of the last seven years, but failed to get the required 75 percent.

The complete list of 1983 candidates follows:

Dick Allen, Luis Aparicio, Jim Bunning, Lew Burdette, Orlando Cepeda, Mike Cuellar, Larry Dierker, Pat Dobson, Al Downing, Don Drysdale, Elroy Face, Nelson Fox, Dave Giusti, Tommy Helms, Gil Hodges, Joe Hoerner, Elston Howard, Randy Hundley, Harmon Killebrew, Harvey Kuenn, Don Larsen, Juan Marichal, Roger Maris, Carlos May, Bill Mazeroski, Ken McMullen, Bill Melton, Felix Millan, Thurman Munson, Gary Nolan, Tony Oliva, Jim Perry, Vada Pinson, Boog Powell, Doug Rader, Brooks Robinson, Cookie Rojas, Ray Sadecki, Red Schoendienst, Diego Segui, Bill Singer, Joe Torre, Hoyt Wilhelm, Billy Williams, Maury Wills and Jim Wynn.

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- A.M.—
 - 1:00 FIS World Cup Skiing: Men's Giant Slalom from Madonna, Italy
 - 2:30 SportsCenter
 - 3:30 NBA Basketball: Phoenix at Milwaukee
 - 6:00 Golf: 1982 World Match Play Championship from Wentworth, England, Show #2
 - 7:00 SportsCenter
 - 9:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
 - 9:30 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
 - 10:00 SportsCenter
- P.M.—
 - 12:00 NFL Films: Super Bowl XI Highlights, Oakland vs. Minnesota
 - 12:30 Sun Belt College Basketball: Western Kentucky at North Carolina
 - 2:30 Australian Rules Football: W. Australia vs. Victoria
 - 4:00 Big East College Basketball: Georgetown at Syracuse
 - 6:00 FutureSport
 - 6:30 ESPN's SportsForum—Tuesday Edition
 - 7:00 This Week in the NBA
 - 7:30 SportsCenter
 - 8:00 Gymnastics: USGF Single Elimination Championships, Show #4
 - 9:00 SEC College Basketball: Vanderbilt at Alabama (L)
 - 11:00 SportsCenter

- WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12
- A.M.—
 - 12:00 Boxing: The Best of ESPN's Saturday Night at the Fights
 - 2:00 ESPN's SportsForum
 - 3:30 This Week in the NBA
 - 4:00 SEC College Basketball: Vanderbilt at Alabama
 - 6:00 Golf: 1982 World Match Play Championship from Wentworth, England, Show #3
- P.M.—
 - 12:00 Top Rank Boxing
 - 2:30 The NFL Story: Line by Line
 - 3:00 Big 8 College Basketball: Colorado at Kansas State
 - 5:30 ESPN's SportsForum
 - 6:00 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
 - 6:30 Ski School
 - 7:00 SportsCenter
 - 9:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
 - 9:30 FutureSport

*All Times Eastern Daylight Time. *Programming subject to change.

7:00 SportsCenter

- 9:00 ESPN's SportsForum
- 9:30 This Week in the NBA
- 10:00 SportsCenter

P.M.—

- 12:00 SEC College Basketball: Vanderbilt at Alabama
- 1:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
- 1:30 This Week in the NBA
- 2:00 Golf: 1982 World Match Play Championship from Wentworth, England, Show #2
- 3:00 This Week in the NBA
- 4:00 SEC College Basketball: Vanderbilt at Alabama
- 5:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 6:00 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
- 6:30 Ski School
- 7:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
- 9:30 FutureSport

THURSDAY, JAN. 13

A.M.—

- 12:00 SportsCenter
- 12:30 Big 10 College Basketball: Minnesota at Michigan
- 2:30 SportsCenter
- 3:30 ACC College Basketball: Virginia at North Carolina State
- 5:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 6:00 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
- 6:30 Ski School
- 7:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
- 9:30 FutureSport

P.M.—

- 12:00 Top Rank Boxing
- 2:30 The NFL Story: Line by Line
- 3:00 Big 8 College Basketball: Colorado at Kansas State
- 5:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 6:00 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
- 6:30 Ski School
- 7:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
- 9:30 FutureSport

10:00 SportsCenter

- 12:00 SEC College Basketball: Vanderbilt at Alabama
- 1:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
- 1:30 This Week in the NBA
- 2:00 Golf: 1982 World Match Play Championship from Wentworth, England, Show #2
- 3:00 This Week in the NBA
- 4:00 SEC College Basketball: Vanderbilt at Alabama
- 5:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 6:00 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
- 6:30 Ski School
- 7:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
- 9:30 FutureSport

P.M.—

- 12:00 Top Rank Boxing
- 2:30 The NFL Story: Line by Line
- 3:00 Big 8 College Basketball: Colorado at Kansas State
- 5:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 6:00 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
- 6:30 Ski School
- 7:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 ESPN's SportsWoman
- 9:30 FutureSport

FRIDAY, JAN. 14

A.M.—

- 1:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 2:00 The NFL Story: Line by Line
- 2:30 SportsCenter
- 3:30 Top Rank Boxing
- 6:00 Vic's People in Sports
- 6:30 Pack the Pros
- 7:00 College Football: 1983 Rose Bowl Highlights
- 7:30 SportsCenter
- 8:00 The NFL Story: Line by Line (L)
- 8:30 Top Rank Boxing from Chattanooga, Tenn., 10-Round Heavyweight, John Tate vs. Danny Tolton (L)
- 11:00 SportsCenter
- 11:30 Big 8 College Basketball: Colorado at Kansas State

P.M.—

- 1:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 2:00 The NFL Story: Line by Line
- 2:30 SportsCenter
- 3:30 Top Rank Boxing
- 6:00 Vic's People in Sports
- 6:30 Pack the Pros
- 7:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 The NFL Story: Line by Line
- 9:30 ESPN's SportsForum
- 10:00 SportsCenter

• SATURDAY, JAN. 15

A.M.—

- 12:00 Top Rank Boxing
- 2:30 SportsCenter
- 3:30 College Basketball Report
- 4:00 Big 8 College Basketball: Colorado at Kansas State
- 6:00 1982 Michelob Light World Championchip Offshore Powerboat Race
- 7:00 NFL Game of the Week
- 8:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 NCAA Instructional Series: Basketball—Rebounding with Louisville Coach Denny Crum
- 9:15 College Basketball Report
- 9:45 NCAA Instructional Series: Basketball—Shooting with North Carolina Coach Jim Valvano
- 10:00 Vic's Vacant Lot (Children)
- 10:30 Pack the Pros
- 11:00 FutureSport
- 11:30 Ski School

P.M.—

- 12:00 SportsCenter Plus
- 12:30 NFL Films: Super Bowl II Highlights, Green Bay vs. Oakland
- 1:00 Gymnastics: USGF Single Elimination Championships, Show #4
- 2:00 Top Rank Boxing
- 5:00 Sun Belt College Basketball: Jacksonville at Alabama-Birmingham (L)
- 6:00 SportsCenter
- 7:50 ESPN's NBA Tonight (L)
- 8:00 NBA Basketball: Golden State at Milwaukee (L)
- 10:30 NBA Basketball: Kansas City at Seattle (L)

SUNDAY, JAN. 16

A.M.—

- 1:00 Notre Dame Basketball: Notre Dame at Marquette
- 3:00 SportsCenter

P.M.—

- 4:00 ACC College Basketball: Clemson at Wake Forest
- 6:00 Big 10 College Basketball: Wisconsin at Michigan
- 8:00 SportsCenter
- 9:00 College Football: 1983 Rose Bowl Highlights
- 9:30 NFL Game of the Week
- 10:00 UCLA Basketball: Oregon State at UCLA

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OBITUARIES

Bruce Gamble, forced to retire as a National Hockey League goalie in 1972 because of heart problems, died in a Niagara Falls, Ont., hospital December 30 a few hours after suffering a heart attack following his participation in a hockey old-timers' game. He was 43.

Gamble played for four different NHL teams during his career, spending his longest stint with the Toronto Maple Leafs (1965-70). The Port Arthur, Ont., native was in goal for Philadelphia in 1972 when he collapsed with what was later diagnosed as a heart attack. He never played in the NHL again. In 327 games, he compiled a 3.23 goals-against average and had 22 shutouts.

Friends and teammates on the old-timers' team said Gamble had not worked at a steady job in the past three years, but had been contacted about playing in a televised series of games involving former players with the six original NHL clubs, and was delighted with the prospect.

Gamble appeared in two games for the New York Rangers during the 1958-59 NHL season, was in goal for Boston in 80 games in 1960-62, was acquired by Toronto in 1965, then traded to Philadelphia in February of 1971.

Katherine L. Ley, who helped found the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women in 1966, died of cancer December 23 in Newark, O. She was 63.

The AIAW, organized by Miss Ley, Marie Sexton of the College of Wooster and Phoebe Scott, then a professor at Ohio State, ceased operations in 1982 after the NCAA, which had been exclusively for men's college athletics, decided to conduct national championship competition in women's college sports.

Ley was athletic director at Capital University in Columbus, O., from 1978 until her retirement in July of 1981. A 1941 graduate of the University of Wisconsin, she received her master's degree from UCLA in 1947 and her Ph.D from Iowa in 1960. She taught at Iowa State, Colorado, Michigan and Cortland College in New York.

At the time of her appointment at Capital U., she was one of only two women college athletic directors in the nation.

Paul Nowak, three times an All-America selection while playing basketball for the University of Notre Dame, died recently on Treasure Island, Fla., near St. Petersburg, where he was living in retirement. He was 68.

Nowak was the starting center on Notre Dame teams that had a composite 62-8 record from 1936 through 1938, and was a teammate of Ray Meyer, current DePaul basketball coach, his final two seasons.

Nowak captained the Irish team in 1937-38, the last of three seasons in which he was named to the 10-player Helms Athletic Foundation All-America squad.

Ed Sainsbury, United Press International Midwest sports editor from 1946 until his retirement in 1979, died at Park Forest, Ill., December 15 after a long illness. He was 68.

Sainsbury's newspaper career spanned 41 years, and he was

named Midwest sports editor on his return from military service after World War II. He was headquartered in Chicago. Sainsbury covered most major sporting events in the Midwest, including the Indianapolis 500, which he attended for all but one year between 1946 and 1978. Sainsbury was a native of Minneapolis and a graduate of the University of Minnesota.

Wilbert Bach, long associated with sports programs at the University of Miami, died of cancer December 10 at his home in Coral Gables, Fla. He was 82.

Bach was the university's first paid sports publicist and founded Miami's sports information office in 1935. He was chief statistician in the football press box at the Orange Bowl, and also the public address announcer for Hurricanes' games there.

Fitz Eugene Dixon, former owner of the Philadelphia Eagles, Philadelphia Arrows hockey club and once part-owner of the Philadelphia Phillies, died December 18 at Elkins Park, Pa. He was 94.

The heir to an oil and tobacco fortune, Dixon was captain of the U.S. Davis Cup tennis team in 1929-31. His son, Fitz Jr., formerly owned the Philadelphia 76ers and is part-owner of the Phillies.

Robert F. (Cy) Killian, a catcher and outfielder who played in the New York Yankees' system in the late 1940s, died December 21 at Pawtucket, R.I. He was 56.

Killian was signed off the Providence College campus in 1947 and played for Butler, Binghamton and Amsterdam before he was released in 1953. An unsuccessful candidate for mayor of Pawtucket in 1969, he had been executive director of the Big Brothers of Rhode Island for the last 12 years.

Ken Lutterbach, a fullback for Evansville College from 1953 through 1956 who still holds four school records, died at the home of a sister in Evansville, Ind., December 26. Lutterbach, 48, had a history of heart trouble.

He rushed for 2,362 yards, scored 36 touchdowns, totaled 216 points and had 15 TDs in a single season during his career with the Aces. All those marks remain as school records.

Carl Jorgensen, who retired as trainer for the Green Bay Packers in 1970 after working for the NFL club for 47 years, died at his home in Green Bay December 18. He was 78.

Jorgensen was inducted into the Packers' hall of fame in 1976. He was trainer for the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay basketball team for seven years after retiring from his job with the Packers.

Ray (Soup) Campbell, a lefthander who pitched in the Chicago Cubs organization in the late 1930s and early 1940s, died recently in Minneapolis at the age of 63.

Joseph Spadea, a part owner of the Detroit Lions in the 1950s, died December 15 at Mount Carmel Mercy Hospital near Detroit after a long illness. He was 78.

— ADVERTISEMENT —

Small Firm's New Golf Ball Takes Distance Title in Ohio Competition

Beat 12 of Best by up to 28 Yards

By MIKE HENSON

AKRON, O.—It stands to reason that only one golf ball can be the longest. But a half dozen of the top makers, including Top Flite, Wilson and Acushnet, have publicly claimed the distance title. And one company—MaxFli—actually calls its DDH "the longest ball in history."

So who's telling the truth? Recently an independent testing organization released the cold, hard facts.

Using a "mechanical man" to make sure swing force remained the same, the Rubber Development Laboratories of Akron, Ohio, compared 13 leading balls. The hands-down winner was a ball sold by a small company in Connecticut. The test showed conclusively that their ball delivered up to 28 more yards than the other 12.

But before you rush out to your nearest sporting goods store, there's a catch. To get that much extra distance the winning ball had to violate standards of construction that other contestants had to follow or risk being declared illegal.

Being "illegal" doesn't concern the winner, however. They say the ball's new construction represents the next generation of golf balls, and golfers love it. A spokesman told me, "We're hearing some of the same objections Coburn Haskell heard back in 1898 when he invented the rubber-core ball. Haskell's ball was livelier than the old 'gutta-percha' version. It

allowed an average golfer to add about 30 yards to his shots. Those extra yards made the sport more popular than ever before. Similarly, over 200,000 men and women now use The Hot One™ and that number is growing."

The ball looks and feels like an ordinary ball, so there's no way a player can tell if he's competing with one. Even the name on the ball is a secret. A spokesman says, "Yes, it is illegal when playing under U.S.G.A. rules, but more money is probably changing hands with this little white devil than all the tournament purses put together."

To prove The Hot One™ is the longest ball since Coburn Haskell invented the rubber core you get a free Hot One™ with every order. If that free ball doesn't give you your best game ever, you can return your order for a prompt refund of its price. Keep the free ball, for fun or profit.

A dozen Hot Ones™ cost \$19.95 (plus \$1.75 shipping). Two or more dozen cost just \$18 each; six dozen only \$99. No shipping charges on two or more dozen. The address is: National Golf Center, Dept. H-204, 18 Lois St., Norwalk, CT 06851. You can send a check or charge it by giving them your card's account number and expiration date. No P.O. Boxes, please: all deliveries are UPS. (CT and NY residents must add applicable sales tax.) The Hot One™ also comes in Hi-Vision™ yellow, same price. Good shooting!

Best Enterprises Inc. 1982

Mike Henson is a New York-based free-lance writer and the author of *Secrets to the Short Game*.

Baseball Salaries: Some Fat Figures

ST. LOUIS—Misinformation and rumors have obscured the actual salary levels attained by professional athletes. To set the baseball record straight, the Major League Players Association recently released pay data going back as far as 1967.

Detailed information on average salaries for each club covers the period 1979-82. The two charts published herewith set forth the spectacular gains the players have achieved in the free-agent era.

Marvin Miller, outgoing executive director of the players' association, took pains to avoid overstating the figures. He noted that they have been "properly discounted to produce the present value of deferred payments, signing bonuses have been properly averaged over the life of a player's contract and no fringe payments of any kind are included."

That means there's no padding in the 1982 average salary of \$241,497. It also indicates there's no basis for repeated reports that pro basketball players lead the financial parade with a claimed average of around \$200,000.

Perhaps the most meaningful figure in the accompanying charts is the 1982 median of \$170,900. Half the players in the majors (353) earned that much or more; half earned less.

Pay Going Up . . . and Up

| Rank | Club | 1981 Average | 1982 Average | 1980 Average | 1979 Average | No. of Players |
|------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 4 | California | 423,403 | 259,404 | 191,014 | 155,564 | 30 |
| 1 | N.Y. Yankees | 411,968 | 309,835 | 242,937 | 199,236 | 30 |
| 2 | Philadelphia | 390,370 | 289,971 | 221,274 | 197,926 | 26 |
| 5 | Milwaukee | 330,965 | 243,882 | 159,086 | 137,308 | 27 |
| 3 | Houston | 306,565 | 260,789 | 176,720 | 73,860 | 28 |
| 11 | Montreal | 289,192 | 195,958 | 158,196 | 142,829 | 27 |
| 20 | Oakland | 266,335 | 148,065 | 54,994 | 41,220 | 26 |
| 10 | N.Y. Mets | 263,539 | 201,303 | 126,488 | 93,607 | 28 |
| 22 | Kansas City | 258,091 | 112,910 | 100,453 | 91,583 | 28 |
| 8 | Pittsburgh | 251,234 | 206,359 | 199,185 | 174,439 | 29 |
| 13 | Chi. White Sox | 247,673 | 192,658 | 72,415 | 74,673 | 27 |
| 6 | Boston | 247,513 | 223,252 | 184,886 | 145,882 | 26 |
| 18 | Baltimore | 242,558 | 169,919 | 116,156 | 101,266 | 26 |
| 7 | St. Louis | 237,533 | 207,654 | 173,480 | 116,828 | 25 |
| 21 | Chi. Cubs | 220,662 | 125,117 | 160,209 | 104,116 | 25 |
| 14 | Los Angeles | 216,332 | 192,104 | 183,124 | 134,305 | 27 |
| 11 | Cleveland | 216,000 | 186,396 | 127,505 | 98,023 | 27 |
| 12 | Atlanta | 209,492 | 195,449 | 147,989 | 90,366 | 26 |
| 9 | Cincinnati | 203,532 | 201,557 | 162,855 | 165,144 | 28 |
| 16 | San Francisco | 198,438 | 185,939 | 148,265 | 120,737 | 27 |
| 17 | Texas | 186,424 | 178,131 | 148,792 | 128,806 | 27 |
| 19 | Detroit | 174,134 | 160,561 | 86,988 | 63,377 | 28 |
| 23 | San Diego | 137,946 | 103,106 | 138,978 | 103,819 | 28 |
| 24 | Toronto | 127,860 | 97,271 | 67,218 | 67,044 | 25 |
| 25 | Seattle | 114,405 | 95,263 | 82,244 | 61,830 | 30 |
| 26 | Minnesota | 67,335 | 85,736 | 80,358 | 70,703 | 27 |
| | Average Salary | 241,497 | 185,651 | 143,756 | 113,558 | 706 |
| | Average number of players | | | | | 26,7 |

Salary figures have been discounted for salary deferrals without interest at a rate of 9 percent per year for the period of delayed payments.

A 16-Year Climb

| Year | Minimum Salary | Average Salary | Median Salary |
|-------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1967 | \$ 6,000 | \$ 19,000 | \$ 17,000 |
| 1968* | 10,000 | Not Available | Not Available |
| 1969 | 10,000 | 24,809 | 19,750 |
| 1970 | 12,000 | 29,303 | 21,750 |
| 1971 | 12,750 | 31,543 | 24,750 |
| 1972 | 13,500 | 34,092 | 27,000 |
| 1973 | 15,000 | 36,566 | 28,000 |
| 1974 | 15,000 | 40,839 | 30,000 |
| 1975 | 16,000 | 44,676 | 34,000 |
| 1976 | 19,000 | 51,501 | 40,000 |
| 1977 | 19,000 | 76,066 | 58,000 |
| 1978 | 21,000 | 99,876 | 68,000 |
| 1979 | 21,000 | 113,538 | 80,000 |
| 1980 | 30,000 | 143,756 | 105,000 |
| 1981 | 32,500 | 185,851 | 135,000 |
| 1982 | 33,500 | 241,497 | 170,900 |
| 1983 | 35,000 | | |

*First Basic Agreement between clubs and major league baseball players.

†Salary figures have been discounted for salary deferrals without interest at a rate of 9 percent per year for the period of delayed payments.

‡353 players earned \$170,900 or more; 353 players earned less than \$170,900.

§Estimate.

Changes

(Continued From Page 37)

number of scholarships allowed by the NCAA, or an equivalent cash outlay.

What all that bureaucracy means is trouble for a school like American University, which was No. 40 in THE SPORTING NEWS' preseasont rankings. The Washington, D.C., school doesn't even seat 3,500 in its home gymnasium, Fort Myer Fieldhouse.

So American U., according to the NCAA Council's proposal, would have to make quick improvements or drop out of Division I.

The council and schools in favor say they want to make Division I more homogenous. That means they want to make Division I smaller.

However, it's clearly a power play by the larger schools—many of the football powers—who don't like having to split up the NCAA basketball tournament loot so many ways.

"College basketball season is great as it is," said Bob Frailey, American U.'s athletic director. "If they keep messing with the sport, pretty soon we should just go back to federations so each sport can govern itself."

NAMES AND GAMES

Week in Review

AUTO RACING—Stock car racing's first million-dollar purse will be awarded at this year's Daytona 500. The winner will receive \$100,350 of the \$1,014,347 purse.

BOXING—The light-heavyweight title unification bout between World Boxing Association champion Michael Spinks and World Boxing Council champion Dwight Muhammad Qawi (Dwight Braxton) has been set for March 4 in either Atlantic City, N.J., or Caracas, Venezuela. Each fighter will make \$1.2 million, according to the promoters. The only champion currently recognized by both boxing groups is middleweight Marvin Hagler.

Former WBC flyweight champion Shoji Oguma of Japan has retired. In a 13-year career, Oguma had a 38-10-1 record with 20 knockouts.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL—Former Green Bay Packers and Notre Dame coach Dan Devine withdrew his name from consideration as Temple University coach. But the Philadelphia school's search committee planned to consult with Devine about recommending Wayne Hardin's successor.

College coaching jobs filled included:

Army—Jim Young, who had resigned as Purdue's head coach after the 1981 season to become associate athletic director. His Purdue mark was 37-19-1.

Connecticut—Tom Jackson, an assistant the last five years, replaced Walt Nadzak, who resigned after a 5-6 record in 1982.

Cincinnati—Watson Brown, who was Vanderbilt's offensive coordinator. He replaces Mike Gottfried, who took the Kansas job. Brown was Vandy's quarterback in a 14-10 upset of Alabama in 1969.

Appalachian State—Mack Brown, who was quarterback coach at Louisiana State. He is the brother of Watson Brown.

Northern Iowa—Darrell Murda, who has 25 years of head coaching experience, moved from Eastern Illinois University. Murda won the NCAA College Division title with North Dakota State in 1968 and his 1978 Eastern Illinois team was Division I-AA champion.

Emporia State—Larry Kramer, who had been coach for 10 years at Austin College in Sherman, Tex. He was an All-America tackle for Nebraska in 1964.

Doug Williams, a sophomore offensive tackle who quit the Kentucky team last fall, will transfer to Texas A&M. The 6-7, 270-pounder from Cincinnati's Moeller High School started for Kentucky in 1981, but was dropped to second string in '82 by the new coach, Jerry Claiborne.

Jimmy Johnson, 22-21-2 in four years as coach at Oklahoma State, signed a contract for three more years.

Vance Carlson, a Big Eight official 25 years, retired after working the Sugar Bowl. He is 57, the Big Eight's mandatory retirement age for football officials. He operates a bowling alley in McPherson, Kan.

GOLF—Peter Oosterhuis shot 4-under-par 68 in the final round to finish with a 72-hole score of 277 and a one-stroke victory over Jay Haas in the \$150,000 Spalding Pro-Am Invitational at Pebble Beach, Calif. The 11-year-old tournament is played the week before the official opening of the PGA and LPGA tours. Patty Sheehan's 286 was the low score among the women in the event.

HOCKEY—Todd Johnson of the United States scored the winning goal in a 3-2 victory over Torpedo Gorky of the Soviet Union in the championship game of the Amateur World Hockey Tournament in Battle Creek, Mich., on December 31.

HORSE RACING—Fabulous Notion scored a four-length victory in the \$115,400 California Breeder's Champion Stakes for 2-year-old fillies December 30 at Santa Anita. Danald Pierce was the jockey.

How fast is Chinook Pass? The 3-year-old gelding equaled the track record for six furlongs: 1:07 3/5, in winning the Palos Verdes Handicap at Santa Anita. That was Chinook Pass' third record performance in four months. In September, he set a world record of :55 1/5 for five furlongs at Longacres in Seattle, and in early December, he equaled the Hollywood Park turf course record with a five-furlong clocking of 56 flat.

Pat Day rode his 399th winner at Delta Downs in Vinton, La., New Year's Eve to win the national riding title over Angel Cordero Jr., who finished 1982 with 397 victories.

OLYMPICS—Fireman's Fund Insurance Co. announced that ABC has purchased a \$200 million policy covering the network's telecasts of the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. The network would be compensated if certain circumstances cause expenses to exceed anticipated revenues. ABC would collect if any of 10 key countries withdraws (United States, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, France, China, East Germany, West Germany, Japan, Canada and Australia) or if a strike, earthquake or other circumstances cause cancellation, postponement or relocation of the Games.

SOCER—The United States has formally bid for the World Cup tournament in 1986. Canada, Mexico and Brazil also are bidding to replace Colombia, which withdrew as '86 host last month.

The European Player of the Year for 1982? Who else? Paolo Rossi, hero of Italy's triumph in the World Cup, was selected for the honor by the Paris sports newspaper *l'Equipe*.

WRESTLING—The University of Kentucky has decided to discontinue its wrestling program, joining Southeastern Conference members Florida, Alabama, Auburn and Georgia as schools which have dropped the sport since 1979.

Iowa State won the first Midwest Wrestling Championships December 30 in Ames, Ia., with 149 points to 121 each for Oklahoma and Northern Iowa. Mike Mann, Iowa State's 190-pounder, was named outstanding wrestler in the 14-team meet.

Iowa won its eighth Midlands Wrestling Championships title in nine years December 30 at Palatine, Ill., outscoring runner-up Oklahoma State, 99.25 to 80. Iowa State had interrupted Iowa's string of consecutive victories last year.



Deflation Strikes In Minneapolis

Mother Nature dropped nearly 17 inches of snow on the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis on December 29, but the snow wasn't nearly as hard on the structure as the men employed to clean it off.

Because the stadium's fiberglass-Teflon roof is supported only by air pressure, it was necessary to remove some of the weight on the structure. But while 10 workers shoveled snow into a huge crane-hoisted bucket, a section of snow moved and the roof shifted, quickly rising about six feet.

Workers, unable to elevate the bucket, watched as it tore a six-foot-square hole in

the surface and air began gushing out as the stadium exhaled. Pretty soon, it was "dipping toward center field," in the words of one witness.

"I heard the fabric waving and hot air shooting up," said Kevin Bjornson, who lives nearby. "I watched it sink. It went down pretty fast."

The stadium, which was opened just this year, houses the Twins in baseball and the Vikings in football; this led to another problem. The Vikings were scheduled to play host to the Dallas Cowboys on January 3, leaving only a few days for completing a repair mission.

"I'm sure this will be all right," Vikings Coach Bud Grant kept promising.

"If they don't get it fixed in time," said Vikings reserve quarterback Steve Dils, "Bud will be up there stitching."

Work crews patched the dome with a 230-by-40-foot replacement panel flown in from Buffalo. The roof manufacturer, Birdair Structures, had the replacement panel available because the company was working on a similar roof for an arena to be built for the Calgary Flames hockey team.

Leaving absolutely nothing to chance, the National Football League laid down alternative plans. If repairs were not complete in time, the game would be moved to the Superdome in New Orleans.

The dome in New Orleans has never collapsed. This was the second time for Minneapolis. The dome deflated November 19, 1981, after an ice storm.



Weaver-Dokes: Finally, Round 2

Mike Weaver, who lost his World Boxing Association heavyweight title after just 63 seconds in the ring with Michael Dokes, finally is going to get a chance to get to see Round 2.

The WBA has ordered a rematch of the December 10 fight, which was stopped by referee Joey Curtis, to be held within 90 days, and a spokesman for the organization said the 63-second champ will comply.

The WBA executive committee, headed by Venezuelan Gilberto Mendoza, determined that Weaver was not given the mandatory eight count when he was knocked down 40 seconds into the fight at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Films showed that referee Curtis allowed the bout to resume after just five seconds.

Said a spokesman for Dokes: "Michael Dokes knocked Weaver out once and he'll do it again."

There have been no official odds posted this time on whether the fight will make it to the second round.

At Age 15, It's Time to Move On

At the ripe old age of 15, Carling Bassett has decided she's ready to turn pro. Daughter of millionaire sports promoter John Bassett and one of the premier junior tennis players in the world, Miss Bassett made the announcement from her home in Toronto shortly after winning her latest title.

"I think I am ready," said Bassett, whose latest prize was the championship trophy from the Orange Bowl World Junior tourney.

"I liked the juniors. It was fun. But it's time to move on," she said.

Papa Bassett, who owns the Tampa Bay Bandits of the United States Football League and who formerly owned a World Football League franchise in Memphis, says he'll make sure that the transition for his daughter is gradual.

"It's not as if we're going to throw her into the meat grinder," he said.

There will be time enough for that after she's a little older. Like, say, when she turns 16.

Green Would Sooner Be a Trojan

Tim Green, a lefthanded quarterback who passed up a storm in two seasons at El Camino College, has picked the University of Southern California over Oklahoma as his new college address.

Green apparently felt Oklahoma's Sooners were not prepared to open up their passing attack enough to suit his style. In 19 games at the junior college in Torrance, Calif., Green completed 395 of 785 passes for 5,448 yards and 49 touchdowns. Green also played his high school football in California—at Manhattan Beach.

Green was quoted as saying he did not want to play second fiddle to Marcus Dupree at Oklahoma. Besides, with Ted Tollner taking over as USC coach, the Trojans figure to

Ayala Arrested One More Time

Inside the ring, Tony Ayala Jr. remains an undefeated junior middleweight and one of boxing's rising stars. Outside the ring, things haven't gone anywhere near so well.

When Ayala was apprehended in West Patterson, N.J., on January 1—charged with aggravated sexual assault, burglary and aggravated assault—it marked the second time that he'd been arrested inside of five months.

Ayala, 19 years old, was arrested near daybreak and arraigned later in the day before local Magistrate Josephine Weiner, West Patterson police reported. He was being held in Passaic County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bond.

On August 15, Ayala was arrested in San Antonio, Tex., and charged with burglary. He claimed he was intoxicated and disoriented. At the time, he was serving a 10-year probation for beating a 17-year-old girl in a drive-in theater in 1978.

Ayala, whose ring record is 22-0, is known by two nicknames—"El Torito" and "Boxing's Bad Boy."

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